Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

House Resolution No. 235

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ARGEL JOSEPH T. CABATBAT

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN INVESTIGATION IN AID OF LEGISLATION
BY THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ON THE TWO HUNDRED NINETY NINE (299) IRRIGATION PROJECTS
FLAGGED BY COMMISSION ON AUDIT

WHEREAS, the National Irrigation Administration (NIA) is mandated to help the
country’s program on rice self-sufficiency by infrastructure projects in line with irrigation
and agricultural development.

WHEREAS, The Commission of Audit (COA) released an audit report that stated
that there are more than twenty (20) Billion contracts that incurred significant delays in the
performance of contractors and NIA’s inadequate planning, inefficient execution of surveys
and investigations and the recurring issues on the acquisition of Right of Way (ROW). And
that most funding were initiated by NIA’s Central Office with 55 contracts and the
contractors were delayed by around 15 to 2,287 days.

WHEREAS, a review from the COA disclosed that the NIA Management had not
been able to fully address the recurring issue on considerable delays in the implementation of
NIA Projects.

WHEREAS, these delays cost an unsurmountable amount of government funds that
was put to waste and deprived the Filipino’s of its benefits.

WHEREAS, there is an overwhelming need to conduct an immediate investigation to
find out if such unfinished and uncompleted projects were due to the contractor’s fault or to
the government’s neglect and corruption in the agency.

WHEREAS, there is need to remove the bureaucratic bottlenecks to allow the
expeditious completion of these irrigation projects to cushion the adverse impact of Rice
Tarrification Law to farmers who continue to bear the brunt of wrong Policy and government
ineptness.

BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the appropriate
committee of the House of Representatives immediately conduct an investigation in aid of
legislation to revisit the budget allocated to NIA, qualification and bidding procedures for
contractors and implementation procedures of irrigation projects, including the current policies, standards and rules that parties adhere to.

Adopted.

ARGEL JOSEPH T. CABATBAT
MAGSASAKA Partylist