Begun and held in Metro Manila, on Monday, the twenty-seventh day of July, two thousand twenty.

RESOLUTION NO. 162

WHEREAS, the Philippines is situated in the Pacific Ring of Fire, and is vulnerable to volcanic eruptions and earthquakes; hence, ensuring infrastructure resiliency and integrity is crucial in improving its efforts in disaster preparedness and mitigation;

WHEREAS, the Universal Structural Health Evaluation and Recording (USHER) System is a research and development product of the Mapua University’s School of Civil, Environmental and Geological Engineering, headed by its Dean, Dr. Francis Aldrine A. Uy, in collaboration with the Department of Science and Technology - Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (DOST-PCIEERD) that supported and partially funded the project;

WHEREAS, the USHER System can be installed in all types of buildings, allowing building managers to monitor the building’s “health” and structural integrity to determine if it could withstand a strong earthquake;

WHEREAS, the USHER System is an advanced structural health monitoring device composed of an accelerograph, an instrument for recording the acceleration in velocity of earthquake vibrations, and a web portal that acts as an earthquake recording instrument, and is compliant with Presidential Decree No. 1096, otherwise known as the “National Building Code of the Philippines”, and other government regulations;

WHEREAS, the USHER System can contribute greatly to the efforts of the government and the communities to address concerns on the condition of buildings before, during and after strong earthquakes, and to enable them to respond faster and in a more appropriate manner that would minimize destruction to human life and property;

WHEREAS, the USHER System has received awards that highlight the product’s excellence and relevance in addressing issues on risk reduction management, such as the Best R&D
Award during the Eighth Anniversary of the DOST-PCIEERD in 2018, given to a Filipino individual or group who has completed exceptional research and development projects in industry, energy and emerging technology; the Best Digital Solutions under Smart Settlement and Urbanization in the 2019 Global Winners of the World Summit Awards (WSA), a prestigious international competition advocating the promotion of the world’s best innovations; and the 2019 ASEAN Outstanding Engineering Achievement Award, given by the ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organisations (AFOEO) during the 37th Conference of ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organisations (CAFEO 37) in Jakarta, Indonesia;

WHEREAS, the USHER System, including the newly formed Usher Technologies Inc., formally launched on September 2, 2019, is now on its spin-off stage and is ready for commercialization;

WHEREAS, the USHER System is predicted to be a formidable tool for local government units, including urban planners and structural engineers, who want to plan ahead and prepare adequately for earthquakes;

WHEREAS, this cost-effective alternative to existing devices is well-suited to the local market which offers a viable system for building or public infrastructure and enables stakeholders to comply with the provisions of the National Building Code of the Philippines, National Structural Code of the Philippines and the Department of Public Works and Highways’ Implementing Rules and Regulations on Earthquake Recording Instruments: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the House of Representatives, To commend and congratulate the Mapua University - School of Civil, Environmental and Geological Engineering, and the Department of Science and Technology -
Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (DOST-PCIEERD) for their collaboration in the invention of the Universal Structural Health Evaluation and Recording (USHER) System.

Adopted,

LORD ALLAN JAY Q. VELASCO
Speaker

This Resolution was adopted by the House of Representatives on May 25, 2021.

MARK LLANDERO "DONG" L. MENDOZA
Secretary General