

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2357



Introduced by Honorable Tomas M. Dumpit

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks the establishment of at least one (1) national cemetery in each region and major island to serve as a memorial and final resting place for veterans, military personnel, and other distinguished citizens who have rendered outstanding service to the nation.

There is presently only one national cemetery which is the Libingan ng mga Bayani, formerly called Republic Memorial Cemetery, located at Fort Bonifacio. The Iloilo City government has established its own Veterans Cemetery and there are a few cities and towns which have set aside small areas in their municipal cemeteries exclusively for veterans and military personnel, but there are no similar facilities in other areas of the country. Many surviving kins of persons who are entitled to burial in the Libingan, particularly those from Mindanao, Visayas and the distant provinces of Luzon, prefer to have their departed relatives interred in municipal or private cemeteries which are more accessible from their home towns.

It is proposed that a number of national cemeteries be established such that there will be at least one (1) national cemetery in each region and major island. In this way, the government can offer each veteran, military personnel and distinguished citizens a final resting place which provides both distinction for the departed and convenience for the relatives they leave behind. These national cemeteries shall be established individually by Presidential Proclamation and shall be placed under the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office.

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL MEMORIAL CEMETERY IN EVERY REGION
OR MAJOR ISLAND IN THE PHILIPPINES AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR
ADMINISTRATION AND MAINTENANCE

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the
Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. There shall be established at least one (1) national memorial cemetery in each Region and major island to serve as a commemorative and final resting place for veterans, military personnel and citizens who have rendered distinguished service to the nation.

SEC. 2. The President of the Philippines shall establish a national memorial cemetery by individual Presidential Proclamation which shall set aside a portion of government land for the purpose.

SEC. 3. Military veterans and military personnel who die in line of duty, persons who have rendered distinguished service to the nation and such other persons as may be determined by the President of the Philippines shall be entitled to burial in the national memorial cemetery.

SEC. 4. The administration, maintenance and security of national memorial cemeteries shall be under the jurisdiction of the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office. Funds for the Purpose shall be included in the annual appropriations of the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office.

SEC. 5. All laws, orders or decrees in contravention herewith are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,