

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 4355



Introduced by **HON. BENASING O. MACARAMBON, JR.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Lanao was created as a district of Mindanao in 1895. In 1903, Lanao was incorporated into the Moro Province by the American government. The province of Lanao was born in 1914 with the organization of the Department of Mindanao and Sulu. In 1959, Lanao was divided along ethnic lines---into Lanao del Sur and Lanao del Norte --- by virtue of Republic Act No. 2228.

The Lanao Provinces did not only figure prominently in the Muslim-Christian struggle during the 1970s, they continue today to provide important access, by land, between what is known as the Zamboanga Peninsula and mainland Mindanao.

Lanao Lake, the largest lake in Mindanao, and Maria Cristina Falls, the largest waterfall in the country, are both located in these provinces, generating power for most of Mindanao through various hydroelectric stations.

Thus Lanao, both in economic and social terms, is the virtual melting pot of the Mindanao region. Its importance to sustaining the tentative peace that holds sway over Mindanao cannot be overemphasized.

It stands to reason, therefore, that any infrastructure development in the Lanao Provinces promises great benefit, not only to its residents, but to the entire region as well.

This bill seeks to convert the Bacolod-Munai-Madalum Provincial Road, which spans both Lanao Provinces, into a national road. The conversion is expected to free national government's resources for the much-needed maintenance, rehabilitation and improvement of this major link between the Lanao Provinces, and between and among the rest of the adjacent provinces.

Because of the benefits such a road conversion will bring, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

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**AN ACT TO CONVERT THE BACOLOD-MUNAI-MADALUM
PROVINCIAL ROAD IN THE PROVINCES OF LANA DEL SUR AND
LANAO DEL NORTE INTO A NATIONAL ROAD, TO BE CALLED THE
BACOLOD-MUNAI- MADALUM NATIONAL HIGHWAY,
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

SECTION 1. The Bacolod-Munai-Madalum Provincial Road in the Provinces of Lanao del Sur and Lanao del Norte, specifically located between the Marawi-Malabang National Highway in Madalum, Lanao del Sur, and the Iligan-Aurora National Highway in Bacolod, Lanao del Norte, is hereby converted into, and declared, a national road to be called the Bacolod-Munai-Madalum National Highway.

SECTION 2. The amount necessary for the immediate improvement, repair and maintenance of this road shall be funded out of the appropriations of the Department of Public Works and Highways. Thereafter, any such amounts needed to ensure the sustained improvement, repair and maintenance of this road shall be included in the General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect immediately upon its approval.