

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 675



Introduced by **REP. CESAR V. SARMIENTO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Airports are vital infrastructures that are reflective of the progress of the community where they are situated. Studies show that passenger traffic and cargo volumes are indications of economic development, business activity and tourism.

Virac Airport is the only airport in the province of Catanduanes and is classified as a secondary airport or a minor commercial domestic airport by the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines. Catanduanes, being an island, is isolated from mainland Bicol and the rest of the Philippine archipelago and air transportation is the fastest way to travel to and from the place. As an island that has so much to offer in terms of tourism, it needs an airport that is capable to hold bigger aircrafts and to accommodate a larger number of passengers.

The upgrading of the Virac Airport will strengthen the economy and will boost the tourism industry of the province which will ultimately redound to the benefit of the country. Hence, approval of this bill is highly called for.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cesar V. Sarmiento".

CESAR V. SARMIENTO

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**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE IMPROVEMENT, REHABILITATION AND
MODERNIZATION OF VIRAC AIRPORT IN THE PROVINCE OF
CATANDUANES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. The Virac Airport in the Municipality of Virac, Province of Catanduanes shall be improved, rehabilitated and modernized. The Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP) is mandated to carry out the implementation of this Act.

SECTION. 2. The Director General of the CAAP shall include in the CAAP Master Plan the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be taken from the CAAP's internally generated funds, corporate borrowings and other financing schemes available to the Authority.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,