

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **4520**



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE RUBY M. SAHALI

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to convert the Batu-Batu – Balimbing – Sumbilang Road from a provincial road to a national road.

The road is a strategic component of a planned Tawi-Tawi Circumferential Road that will connect the province's contiguous municipalities of Bongao, Panglima Sugala, Languyan and parts of Sapa-Sapa and Tandubas. It is an unfinished road, with most of its segments still not paved nor graveled.

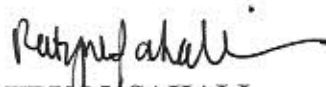
The road is also in poor condition because of lack of maintenance brought about by lack of funds.

And, yet, the need to repair or upgrade the said road is not only indispensable but immediate. These places (Batu-Batu, Balimbing and Sumbilang) are primary producers of agricultural products and that which make Panglima Sugala the veritable Food Basket of Tawi-Tawi. Batu-Batu, itself, the municipality's capital town is also the official capital of the province.

Both the Panglima Sugala Municipal Government and the Tawi-Tawi Provincial Government do not have enough funds for the repair or upgrading and maintenance of the said road. The national government has to provide funding assistance through a budget appropriation.

And this can only be possible if the road is converted into a national road.

Passage of this measure is earnestly requested.


RUBY M. SAHALI
Lone District of Tawi-Tawi

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**AN ACT CONVERTING BATU-BATU – BALIMBING – SUMBILANG ROAD AS
A NATIONAL ROAD**

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

SECTION 1. The 25 kilometer Batu-Batu – Balimbing – Sumbilang Road in the Province of Tawi-Tawi is hereby converted into a national road under the jurisdiction and supervision of the Department of Public Works and Highways.

SECTION 2. The amount necessary for the improvement of said road shall be charged to the appropriations of the Department of Public Works and Highways under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter such sum as may be necessary for its repair and maintenance shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.