

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5506



Introduced by HON. TUPAY T. LOONG of the First District, Sulu

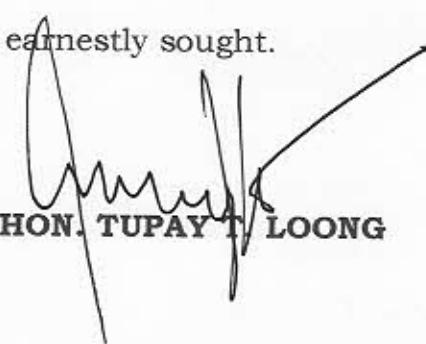
EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Bill seeks to convert the Sulu Circumferential Road in the Province of Sulu into a national road.

The Sulu Circumferential Road functions as the key thoroughfare in the Province of Sulu as it connects the various coastal municipalities of the province to the Capital Town of Jolo, particularly the Jolo Port and Jolo Airport. With that, it serves as well as the major economic artery of the area. The major commodities of the people of Sulu pass through the road and on to other economic centers outside the province like Isabela City in Basilan and Zamboanga City in the north while in the south, the port of Bongao in Tawi Tawi. In some instances, traders using the Sulu Circumferential Road and the municipal ports send their produce like dried fish and seaweeds to buyers even in Malaysia. From the Sulu Circumferential Road, arterial roads connect also some beaches and recreational resorts that are potential tourist destinations. It is sad to note however that the upkeep of the Sulu Circumferential Road cannot be borne by the coffers of the province alone since there are other social services that receive higher priority for the sake of the people of Sulu, majority of whom lie below the poverty line.

It is in this light that there is an urgent need for the Department of Public Works and Highways assist the province in improving and maintaining this major thoroughfare for the benefit of the people of Sulu.

With this, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


HON. TUPAY T. LOONG

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE CONVERSION OF THE
SULU CIRCUMFERENTIAL ROAD IN THE PROVINCE OF SULU
INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. The Sulu Circumferential Road in the Province of Sulu is hereby converted into a national road under the supervision and maintenance of the Department of Public Works and Highways.

SECTION 2. The Secretary of Public Works and Highways shall include in its programs the improvement, maintenance and repair of the above mentioned road, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

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

APPROVED...

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Amif", is located in the lower right quadrant of the page.