



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

Sixteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5832



Introduced by : **Cong. George P. Arnaiz & Cong. Pryde Henry A. Teves**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to name the Dumaguete South, road which stretches from Dumaguete City to the Municipality of Basay, Province of Negros Oriental as "Pantaleon Leon Kilat Villegas Highway".

On April 3, 1898, Pantaleon Villegas, better known as "Leon Kilat" ("Lightning León" in Cebuano), led the successful uprising against the Spanish Government in Cebu City. He was born in Bacong, Negros Oriental last July 27, 1873, to Don Policarpio Villegas and Doña Úrsula Soldi. His grandfather was Don Pedro Villegas, a native of Spain, and Dorotea, a daughter of a capitán of Bacong.

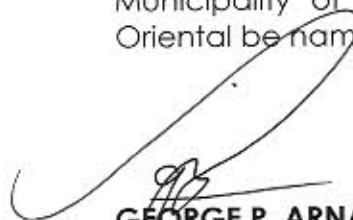
In 1895, he worked at Botica Antigua located in the corner of Calle del Palacio and Calle Legazpi (Burgos and Legazpi). It was a well-known drugstore frequented by many Cebuanos. With him were Ciriaco Murillo and Eulogio Duque who told the writer Manuel Enríquez de la Calzada that Pantaleón actually used the name "Eulogio", instead of Pantaleón. Because there were two Eulogios working in the drugstore, the German owner had to call him instead "León". Why he used the name "Eulogio" was not known.

Villegas did not stay long at Botica Antigua. He transferred to a bakery in Pahina (Fagina). From there he moved on to a circus owned by Tagalogs on their way to Manila. The circus happened to be owned by a katipunero. It was there that he was recruited into the secret council of the Katipunan.

During the rebellion against Spain, Kilat led the revolutionaries in Cebu. Initially intending to begin the rebellion on Easter Sunday, he was forced to change his plans when the Spaniards discovered the planned revolt. Kilat and his men began the rebellion in Cebu on Palm Sunday, April 3, 1898. He was, however, betrayed and murdered on Good Friday, April 8, 1898, in Carcar, Cebu. He was stabbed to death by his own aide-de-camp, Apolinario Alcuítas.

The town of Bacong in Negros Oriental has honored Villegas with a statue erected in the town plaza in 1926. On July 27, 2008, the 135th anniversary of Villegas' birth, the Philippine National Historical Institute turned over a historical marker in honor of Villegas to local and provincial officials in his hometown.

In view of the foregoing reasons, it is therefore commendable that the Dumaguete South Road, which passes through the Municipality of Bacong all the way to Basay, Province of Negros Oriental be named as "Pantaleon Leon Kilat Villegas Highway".



GEORGE P. ARNAIZ
Representative
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PRYDE HENRY TEVES
Representative
3rd District, Oriental Negros



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AN ACT
NAMING THE DUMAGUETE SOUTH ROAD WHICH STRETCHES FROM
DUMAGUETE CITY TO THE MUNICIPALITY OF BASAY, NEGROS ORIENTAL
AS THE PANTALEON LEON KILAT VILLEGAS HIGHWAY

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

SECTION 1. The Dumaguete South road which stretches from Dumaguete City to the Municipality of Basay, Negros Oriental is renamed as Pantaleon Leon Kilat Villegas Highway.

SECTION 2. The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) shall issue the necessary rules, orders and circulars to implement the provision of this 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.