

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **5884**



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE WILFREDO S. CAMINERO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Bill seeks to convert the 30.4-kilometer local Alcoy-Alegria Road in southern Cebu into a national road. It is located in the Second Legislative District of the Province of Cebu, home to various eco-tourist destinations of the southern portion of the Cebu Island, and gateway to Negros Oriental and Northern Mindanao. It connects the southeastern seaboard to the southwest side of Cebu.

The 2nd District is likewise home to the Vegetable Basket of Cebu which supplies fresh vegetables and agricultural products to meet the demands of the fast-growing population and tourism businesses of Cebu and the Central Visayas. The vegetables and other agricultural products are grown in the various upland farms of southern Cebu with inadequate farm to market roads making their transportation difficult and expensive.

The municipality of Alcoy is 93 kilometers from Cebu City along the Natalio Bacalso Highway. It has various beach resorts along its coastal areas, but its agricultural areas are located in the mountainous barangays. It is bounded on its western side by the municipality of Alegria, which is about 117 kilometers from Cebu City and three hours-ride via Carcar. Alegria is generally hilly and mountainous.

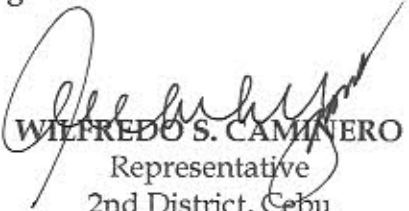
The national road in the southern part of Cebu Province is a coastal road from Alcoy to Boljoon, Oslob to Santander, Samboan, Ginatilan, and Malabuyoc. Over the years, there has been tremendous increase in the traffic of passengers and cargo in the Cebu-Negros Oriental route via the various ports in southern Cebu crossing to Dumaguete and Northern Mindanao. Considering the coastal nature of the national road and the growing use and importance of the Cebu-Negros Oriental route, the Alcoy-Alegria Road that traverses the mountains between the municipalities needs

to be developed and maintained well as a viable and shorter alternative route to the southwestern towns, especially in case of natural calamities which cause closure and blockage of the coastal highway as often happen when typhoons and, worse, earthquakes hit the southern part of Cebu.

The conversion of the Alcoy-Alegria Road into a national road will thus greatly enhance and strengthen the infrastructure backbone in southern Cebu. It will facilitate the movement of residents and tourists and the transport of the agricultural produce from the various mountain barangays of the neighboring towns which at present have to be tediously transported via small farm roads that connect to the Vegetable Basket and for which there has no convenient alternative access.

With the expected tremendous economic impact on eco-tourism, agricultural production, and other economic activities in the area, the conversion of the Alcoy-Alegria Road will greatly boost the many important roles of southern Cebu in the development of the entire Province and the Central Visayas region.

Thus, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



WILFREDO S. CAMINERO
Representative
2nd District, Cebu

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**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONVERSION OF THE ALCOY-ALEGRIA
ROAD IN THE PROVINCE OF CEBU INTO A NATIONAL ROAD
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. The Alcoy-Alegria Road in the Province of Cebu is hereby converted into a national road.

SECTION 2. The Secretary of Public Works and Highways shall include in the Department's program the improvement, repair and maintenance of the said road, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect within fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.

Approved.