



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

Seventeenth Congress
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. **4868**

Introduced By:

REP. FRANCISCO JOSE F. MATUGAS II, 1ST District, Surigao del Norte
REP. HORACIO P. SUANSING, JR., 2ND District, Sultan Kudarat

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Bureau of Customs was created in 1902 as the Philippine Customs Service and was authorized to collect all revenues warranted by law. Public Act No. 430 transformed the Philippine Customs Service to a Bureau of Customs and Immigration under the supervision and control of the Department of Finance and Justice. When the Department of Justice became a separate office from the Department of Finance, the Customs Service remained under the umbrella of the latter which set-up remains up to this time.

Through the years, the Bureau has since undergone several re-organizations and seen amendments to the country's tariff laws. Just last year, the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act was passed into law to, among others, protect and enhance government revenue and modernize customs and tariff administration. The new law also emphasized the role of the Bureau, not just in the collection of customs revenues, but more so in border control to prevent entry of smuggled goods, particularly illegal drugs, and facilitation and security of international trade, and supervision and control of import and export cargoes. Indeed, the Bureau is our first line of defense in border protection. Thus, its name must be changed to reflect this important function.

When President Rodrigo Duterte was elected into office, he vowed to clean the Bureau which has long been perceived as entrenched in a culture of corruption. The Bureau's new leadership has vowed to weed the Bureau of dishonest personnel, limit physical transactions and modernize and computerize the same. A new name will therefore, give the Bureau a clean slate as it puts in place new plans and policies which will address corruption.

The immediate passage of this bill is therefore, earnestly sought.

FRANCISCO JOSE F. MATUGAS II

HORACIO P. SUANSING, JR.



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**AN ACT RENAMING THE BUREAU OF CUSTOMS AS THE PHILIPPINE
BORDER PROTECTION AND CUSTOMS SERVICE**

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

1 SECTION 1. The Bureau of Customs is hereby renamed to Philippine Border
2 Protection and Customs Service.

3
4 SEC. 2. *Repealing Clause.* – All law, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules
5 and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are
6 hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

7
8 SEC. 3. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect immediately after its publication
9 in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

10
11 *Approved,*