

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **5824**



BY REPRESENTATIVE RUBY M. SAHALI

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act (R.A.) No. 10573 or "An Act Declaring the Sheikh Karimul Makhdom Mosque, Considered as the Site of One of the Oldest Existing Muslim Houses of Prayer or Mosques in the Philippines, at Tubig Indangan, Simunul, Province of Tawi-Tawi, as National Historical Landmark and for Other Purposes" was approved on May 24, 2013. As enacted and approved, it declared the Sheikh Karimul Makhdom Mosque in Simunul, Tawi-Tawi as a National Historical Landmark and mandated the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP) to supervise the preservation of the same and to issue the necessary rules and regulations to effectuate the Act. It also authorized the NHCP to organize and undertake a national fund campaign for the purpose of raising funds from private sources to finance the preservation, reconstruction and/or rehabilitation of the shrine.

Subsequently, however, in the course of formulating the law's Implementing Rules and Regulations in consultation conducted by NHCP with the local government of Simunul, Tawi-Tawi, and the Representative of Tawi-Tawi, it emerged that there will be various practical difficulties if the NHCP were to manage the operation of the shrine, basically because the NHCP has no offices and personnel based anywhere in Mindanao. Although the NHCP was willing to undertake or supervise the restoration of the Mosque complex, and to include the necessary works in its budget, it was the consensus that it would be best to entrust the post-restoration operation and maintenance of the shrine to the local authorities.

It is with the foregoing premises in mind that the following amendment to R.A. No. 10573 is now being proposed and its passage earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ruby M. Sahali".

Representative Ruby M. Sahali
Lone District, Tawi-Tawi

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AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 3, SECTION 4, AND SECTION 5 OF THE REPUBLIC ACT 10573, ALSO KNOWN AS "AN ACT DECLARING THE SHEIKH KARIMUL MAKHDUM MOSQUE, CONSIDERED AS THE SITE OF ONE OF THE OLDEST EXISTING MUSLIM HOUSES OF PRAYER OR MOSQUES IN THE PHILIPPINES, AT TUBIG INDANGAN, SIMUNUL, PROVINCE OF TAWI-TAWI, AS NATIONAL HISTORICAL LANDMARK AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

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

Section 3 is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC. 3. *RESTORATION BY the National Historical Commission of the Philippines.* – THE RESTORATION OF THE SHEIKH KARIMUL MAKHDUM MOSQUE SHALL BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE NATIONAL HISTORICAL COMMISSION OF THE PHILIPPINES (NHCP). AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THE RESTORATION WORKS, THE RESTORED SHEIKH KARIMUL MAKHDUM MOSQUE SHALL BE FORMALLY TURNED OVER TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF SIMUNUL, TAWI-TAWI, WHICH SHALL THEREAFTER BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF THE FACILITY.

Section 4 is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC. 4. *Appropriations.* – The Chairman of the NHCP shall immediately include in the Commission's program the RESTORATION of the Sheikh Karimul Makhdum Mosque AND ITS MARKING as a national historical landmark, FOR WHICH PURPOSES the NECESSARY FUNDING shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Section 5 is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC. 5. *Fund-raising Program.* – In order to afford the people an opportunity to participate in financing the OPERATION, MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT of the shrine, the LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF

SIMUNUL, TAWI-TAWI is hereby authorized to organize and undertake a national fund campaign for the purpose of raising funds from private sources.

SEC. 6. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,