

**E-FILED**

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 7438**

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Introduced by: **Hon. Fernando T. Cabredo**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Ease of travel, improved mobility, and economic growth and opportunity are just some of the benefits of having a better road network. This is also an essential factor in rural development, especially in the upland areas.

The construction of the road stretching from Jovellar, Albay to Pantao, Libon, Albay has been ongoing since 2019 and funded under General Appropriations Act FY 2019. This traverses the upland barangays of Jovellar, Guinobatan, Ligao, Oas, and Libon. Thus, it linkages also to the town centers in the 3rd District of Albay.

The road network also connects Bicol International Airport in Daraga, Albay to Pantao Port in Libon, Albay. Its nearing completion would definitely drive tourism in the province, and this will be a great alternative route. It is a strategic link as it also encompasses Port of Pilar in the province of Sorsogon and Port of Pioduran in Albay.

With these, the conversion of Jovellar - Pantao road to a national road and appropriating funds would significantly contribute in accelerating development to the nearby areas.

  
**FERNANDO T. CABREDO**



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**AN ACT**  
**CONVERTING THE ROAD STRETCHING FROM JOVELLAR, ALBAY TO PANTAO,**  
**LIBON, ALBAY 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. Title.** - This Act shall be known as the "Jovellar - Pantao National Road Act".

**SEC. 2. Establishment.** - The road stretching from Jovellar to Barangay Pantao, Libon in the province of Albay is hereby converted into a national road under the supervision of the Department of Public Works and Highways. This shall be a strategic linkage to nearby town centers in the 3rd District of Albay.

**SEC. 3. Appropriations.** - 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.

**SEC. 4. Separability Clause.** - If any portion or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

**SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, executive orders, decrees, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 6. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,