

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10058



Introduced by Representative Mercedes “Didi” C. Cagas

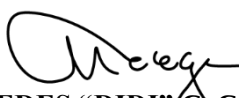
AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A MUSLIM FILIPINO CEMETERY IN THE PROVINCE OF DAVAO
DEL SUR AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Pursuant to Section 11, Article II and Section 5, Article III of the 1987 Constitution, it is the policy of the State to value the dignity of every human being and guarantee full respect for human rights regardless of religious beliefs.

In pursuit of ensuring the preservation of the health and dignity of the Muslim Filipinos of Davao Del Sur and their free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship without discrimination, this representation proposes the establishment of a dedicated public cemetery that shall cater to Filipino Muslims in the Province to serve as burial grounds for the bodies of their deceased loved-ones in keeping with the faith, religious practices and traditions of the deceased and their families that is free from discrimination of any form or manner.

It is for the foregoing reason that the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


MERCEDES “DIDI” C. CAGAS

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

SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to ensure the rights and well-being of Muslim Filipinos with due regard to their beliefs, customs, traditions and institutions.

SEC. 2. *Establishment of a Muslim Filipino Cemetery in the Province of Davao Del Sur.* – A Muslim Filipino Cemetery is hereby established in the Province of Davao Del Sur, the location of which shall be identified by the National Commission on Muslim Affairs (NCMA) in coordination with the concerned local government unit. The NCMA shall, within ninety (90) days, from the approval of this Act form a technical working group to formulate an implementation plan for the said cemetery.

SEC. 3. *Maintenance and Operation of the Cemetery.* – The maintenance and operation of the Muslim Filipino Cemetery shall be under the direct supervision and control of the NCMA.

SEC. 4. *Appropriation.* – The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged to the current appropriations for the NCMA. Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary for the continuous operation and maintenance of the Muslim Filipino Cemetery shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 5. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, and other issuances, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 7. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,