



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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. **416**



Introduced by: **HON. CARL NICOLAS C. CARI**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

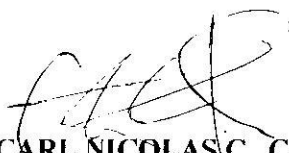
The history and early beginnings of Baybay was believed to be the only settlement on the western coast of Leyte known to the first Spanish conquistadores that came with Magellan, as was Abuyog in the eastern part of the province and Limasawa and Cabalian in the south. In 1620, the Jesuit fathers formally founded the town after building a church and a mission house that belonged to the "residencia" of Carigara, the first and central station of the Society of Jesuits in Leyte.

Endowed with beautiful scenery and rich natural resources, the City of Baybay, Province of Leyte offers several tourist attractions. Beautiful natural rivers, hot springs, natural pools and falls, beaches, caves, and old relics can be found within the city limits. The city is also home to several festivals, namely: the Binaybayon Festival, Tigbawanon Festival, Halaran Festival, and Sirong Festival.

Our culturally significant historical relics and pieces are dispersed throughout the district's several communities. The majority of them have been worn out, submerged in flash floods and other natural disasters, stolen, or lost. Unless fast action is done, the remaining things may vanish and be lost forever.

It is critical to create a cultural center and museum in the City of Baybay to preserve and conserve the region's unique history, traditions, and values, as well as its cultural legacy and identity.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


CARL NICOLAS C. CARI
Representative
5th District, Leyte



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HOUSE BILL No. **416**

Introduced by: **HON. CARL NICOLAS C. CARI**

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CULTURAL CENTER AND MUSEUM IN THE CITY OF
BAYBAY, PROVINCE OF LEYTE TO BE KNOWN AS BAYBAY CITY CULTURAL
CENTER AND MUSEUM, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established in the City of Baybay, Province of Leyte a cultural center and museum to be known as Baybay City Cultural Center and Museum, which shall be under the supervision of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA).

SECTION 2. The Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Baybay, Province of Leyte, in coordination with the NCCA, shall choose the site of the Baybay City Cultural Center and Museum.

SECTION 3. For purposes of implementing its activities and functions, the Baybay City Cultural Center and Museum is hereby authorized to emphasize the following undertakings:

- a. To compile the musical notes and lyrics of Baybay traditional songs, ballads, and contemporary music compositions, and to collect samples of musical instruments of Baybay origin, design, and creation;
- b. To acquire and display a varied range of Baybay arts and artifacts;
- c. To publish and disseminate Baybay literary works, epics, stories, and historical accounts;
- d. To compile Baybay literature, film, or audio-visual recordings of cultural performances in music, dances, oral literature, and festival celebrations;
- e. To compile Baybay works, names of barangays, towns, and other places of interest and their respective history;
- f. To gather and document Baybay religious practices and traditions, and the background and origin of Baybay fiestas and festivals;
- g. To compile photographs of and showcase by appropriate exhibits, Baybay landmarks, historical sites, and scenic views;
- h. To gather specimens of archaeological findings, and to collect major minerals present in Baybay;
- i. To preserve by appropriate methods samples of flora and fauna indigenous to Baybay and its environs.



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SECTION 4. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 5. Within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act, the NCCA shall, in consultation with the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Baybay City, Cultural Center of the Philippines, and National Museum of the Philippines, formulate and issue the rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this Act.

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

APPROVED,