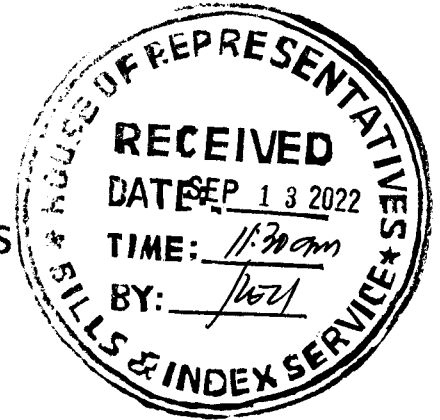




Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. **4748**

Introduced by Representative Shernee A. Tan-Tambut

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to convert the Jolo Busbus-Mauboh Provincial Road traversing the municipalities of Jolo and Patikul in the Province of Sulu, into a national road.

The Jolo Busbus-Mauboh Provincial Road is an integral part of the Sulu Island Circumferential Road, a major thoroughfare in Sulu. The province has an agricultural land mass of 94,500 hectares, and predominantly, agriculture is the main driver of its economy. Its fertile land and ideal climate can grow various crops and exotic fruits, with coconuts and cassava as its major crops.

Aside from agriculture, tourism may be the next driver of its economy. Sulu is home to unspoiled white sand beaches considered among the best in the world. There are also historical landmarks and sites for the artistic and adventurous.

An efficient and reliable land transport network is vital to stimulate economic and agricultural growth, especially for tourism and the transfer of agricultural goods. Improving the road network in rural areas is indispensable in its development. Improved and well-maintained road networks will help reduce the distance between people, markets, and services, and reduce the problems in the transportation of goods.

The conversion of the Jolo Busbus-Mauboh Provincial Road into a national road will have a significant impact on the economic development of the province. The provincial government of Sulu has made efforts to improve the road networks in the islands over the past few years. However, the rapid influx of visitors and

economic activities makes it imperative that the maintenance and improvement of this road be made by the national government.

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



SHERNEE A. TAN TAMBUT



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HOUSE BILL NO. **4748**

Introduced by Representative Shernee A. Tan-Tambut

AN ACT
CONVERTING THE JOLO BUSBUS-MAUBOH PROVINCIAL ROAD
TRAVERSING THE MUNICIPALITIES OF JOLO AND PATIKUL IN
THE PROVINCE OF SULU, INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. The Jolo Busbus-Mauboh Provincial Road, traversing the municipalities of Jolo and Patikul in the Province of Sulu, is hereby converted into a national road.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of Public Works and Highways shall include in the Department's program the improvement, maintenance and repair of the national road, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,