

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**Nineteenth (19<sup>th</sup>) Congress**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 4888**



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Introduced by **HON. EDWARD S. HAGEDORN**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This is a refiling of the bill that originated from 17<sup>th</sup> Congress, sharing the same vision that the Napsan-Bagong Bayan-Simpucan to Bacungan road conversion from city road to a national road category is necessary. It is beneficial to the City of Puerto Princesa, its inhabitants, investors and tourists, as well as its neighboring municipalities serving as an alternative highway of Southern Palawan to Northern Palawan via West Coast of Puerto Princesa and vice versa.

Puerto Princesa, as the capital city of the Province of Palawan, is the center of trade and commerce and government service. The abovementioned roads do not just offer a scenic view of the "last ecological frontier", but it also makes travel economical, faster and safer as it serves as an alternative route going to and around other municipalities such as Aborlan, Quezon and Rizal.

Since the start of civilization up to present, well-paved and well-maintained roads have played a very important function in the establishment of society, and is essential for every place to flourish and develop. It fundamentally contributes to economic development and growth, provides access to employment, health, education and social services, and encourages more investments and businesses in the area, among others. Further, it has crucial effects to tourism for a world-renowned, tourist flocked (local and foreign) paradise like Puerto Princesa.

Due to time and use, these abovementioned roads are already dilapidated and is in dire need of regular maintenance, renewal or modernization. Once converted as a national road, it will be under the direct supervision of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) as to its administration, maintenance, improvement, reconstruction and construction expenditures. The

effect of this conversion will be felt far and wide, not just by the people of Puerto Princesa, but by everyone who gets to see the majestic beauty of the city.

With this, the City Government of Palawan will be able to fully concentrate in the environmental protection, beautification and maintenance of the city, as well as the delivery of services to the Palaweños, while the National Government will help us maintain our roads that will lead the residents and tourists to the greatest and most impressive destinations they will ever see.

In the light of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly recommended.



**HON. EDWARD S. HAGEDORN**

Representative  
Third District of Palawan

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**AN ACT**  
**CONVERTING THE NAPSAN – BAGONG BAYAN – SIMPUCAN – BACUNGAN ROAD IN THE CITY OF PUERTO PRINCESA INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF.**

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

SECTION 1. The Napsan-Bagong Bayan-Simpucan to Bacungan Road in the City of Puerto Princesa is hereby converted into a national road. The ownership, maintenance and supervision of the same belongs to the national government;

Sec. 2. The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) shall prescribe the implementing rules and regulations necessary for the evaluation, approval and implementation of this Act;

Sec. 3. The Secretary of Public Works and Highways shall include in the Department's program and improvement, repair, maintenance of the said road, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Sec. 4. This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days after completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,