



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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 5423



Introduced by **HONORABLE ERNESTO “ERNIX” M. DIONISIO, JR.**

AN ACT
DECLARING THE PLAZA LA LIGA FILIPINA AS A NATIONAL HISTORICAL
LANDMARK, PROVIDING FOR ITS PRESERVATION AND IMPROVEMENT, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The City of Manila is central to our colonial past. With its great importance to our former colonizers came the multitude of historically significant locations and events that shaped the story of our people. One of these important events is the founding by Dr. Jose Rizal of *La Liga Filipina* upon his return to the Philippines on 3 July 1892.¹

The *La Liga Filipina* was established to foster self-sufficiency and offer aid to Filipinos—all in the hopes of reforming the nation. It was the creation of this movement that led to Dr. Jose Rizal's deportation to Dapitan.² The formation of the movement would then inspire the establishment of the *Katipunan*, headed by Andres Bonifacio, and the *Cuerpo de Compromisarios*, which continued supporting *La Solidaridad* in Spain.³

Today, the site where the movement was founded sits in Ilaya Street, Tondo, Manila, where a historical marker relays its story and objectives.

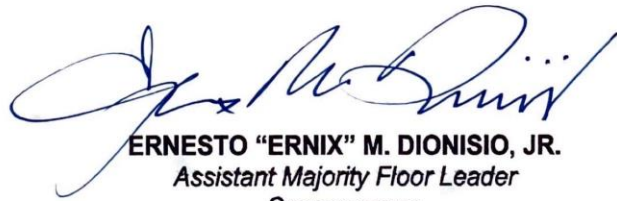
The purpose of this bill seeks to elevate the importance of this historical site by raising its status as a national historical landmark, given its historical significance to our struggle for self-determination. This measure also seeks to preserve the site, in the hopes that future generations of Filipinos will be reminded of the bravery and efforts made by our national heroes to strive for independence.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is highly sought.

¹ <https://nhcp.gov.ph/125th-anniversary-founding-la-liga-filipina/wppaspec/oc1/lnen/cv0/ab16/pt182>

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ernesto M. Dionisio, Jr.', with a stylized flourish at the end.

ERNESTO "ERNIX" M. DIONISIO, JR.

Assistant Majority Floor Leader

Congressman

First Congressional District of Manila



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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 preserve historical sites, monuments, and other relics that represent the Filipino heritage and culture and should therefore be under the protection of the State. Likewise, the State must provide the necessary support to conserve, promote, and popularize these national treasures as part of our nation’s history.

SECTION 2. Designation as Historical Site. – The Plaza La Liga Filipina located in Ilaya Street, Tondo, Manila, is hereby declared a National Historical Landmark.

SECTION 3. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP) shall exercise supervision over the preservation of the aforesaid site and shall, within sixty (60) days, issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provision of this Act.

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

SECTION 5. Authorization to Accept Donations. – The NHCP shall be authorized to receive and solicit donations from private sources for the improvement and maintenance of the Plaza La Liga Filipina. There is hereby created a special fund for this purpose, which shall be managed by the Department of Finance.

SECTION 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,