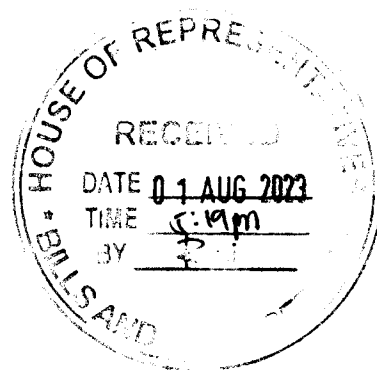




Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH (19th) CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 8695

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**Introduced by: Hon. Ma. Victoria Co - Pilar**

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#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The Balintawak Shrine, located in A. Bonifacio Avenue corner EDSA, Barangay Unang Sigaw, District 6, Quezon City, stands on the hallowed ground where one of the pivotal events in Philippine history occurred – the Cry of Pugad Lawin or the Cry of Balintawak. This event, which took place on August 23, 1896, marked the beginning of the Philippine Revolution against Spanish colonial rule. This historical monument features the Philippine hero and revolutionary leader Supremo Andres Bonifacio, better known as “Ama ng Katipunan” who led the katipuneros with zeal and determination to unite against the oppressive Spanish regime. His leadership and contributions to the Philippine Revolution have left a lasting impact on the nation's history and the struggle for independence.

Andres Bonifacio's historical significance lies in his role as the founder and leader of the Katipunan, his initiation of the Philippine Revolution, his dedication to the masses, and his status as a martyr and national hero. His leadership continues to be celebrated and remembered, representing the undying spirit of the Filipino people in our pursuit for genuine lasting freedom and national identity.

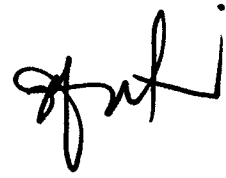
By preserving the historical monument of Balintawak, we pay our respects to the legacy of Bonifacio and the sacrifice of katipuneros by honoring this sacred ground and upholding the memory of heroes and heroines who majestically fought for our country's freedom. The Shrine, which is nestled along the busy and bustling Bonifacio Avenue and EDSA, is subject to daily traffic and pollution. Declaring the area as a

historical heritage site will pave the way for proper development, maintenance, and preservation of the shrine environs. Through a well-subsidized development plan, the shrine could be a safe and welcoming public space where generations upon generations of Filipinos can spend their time embracing the rich history of Andres Bonifacio. With its heritage site status, we can appropriately mandate the restoration of the shrine's infrastructures, preservation of its culture, and rehabilitation of its immediate environs.

Bonifacio's legacy as a revolutionary leader symbolizes Filipino nationalism and patriotism. He embodies the spirit of resistance, the love for country, and the determination to fight for freedom, continuously inspiring generations of Filipinos to stand up for their rights and the nation's sovereignty.

May this monument remind us dearly to love our country — a love that encompasses all.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. N. L.' or similar, with a stylized flourish at the end.



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**AN ACT DECLARING THE ANDRES BONIFACIO MONUMENT IN THE  
6<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OF QUEZON CITY AS A CULTURAL HERITAGE  
SITE, PROVIDING FOR ITS PRESERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT, AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1 **SECTION 1. *Short Title*** – This act shall be known as “The Balintawak Shrine Heritage Site  
2 Act”  
3

4 **SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy*** – It is a policy of the State to conserve, promote, and  
5 popularize the nation’s historical and cultural heritage and resources, as well as artistic  
6 creations. Moreover, the Constitution declares that all the country’s artistic and historic wealth  
7 constitutes the cultural treasure of the nation and shall therefore be under the protection of the  
8 State which may regulate its disposition.  
9

10 Towards this end, it shall be the duty of the State to protect, preserve, and promote the  
11 cultural and historical heritage of the Balintawak Shrine.  
12

13 **SECTION 3. *Andres Bonifacio Monument as a Cultural Heritage Site.*** – The Andres  
14 Bonifacio Monument, also known as the Balintawak Shrine, located in A. Bonifacio Avenue  
15 corner Epifanio De los Santos Avenue (EDSA), Barangay Unang Sigaw, District 6, Quezon  
16 City is hereby declared as a cultural heritage site. As such, its development shall be prioritized  
17 by the Department of Tourism (DOT), National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA),

1 the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP), the Tourism Infrastructure and  
2 Enterprise Zone Authority, and other concerned agencies, subject to the rules and regulations  
3 governing the preservation and development of national heritage sites.

4  
5 **SECTION 4. *Tourism Development Plan*** – Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act,  
6 the DOT, in coordination with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and  
7 other concerned agencies of the government, shall prepare a tourism development plan  
8 involving the construction, installation, and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and  
9 infrastructure that shall improve the overall features and environs of the area, thereby ensuring  
10 the accessibility and security of tourists; *Provided*, that said development plan shall ensure the  
11 preservation and conservation of the historical significance of the area. *Provided further*, that  
12 the DOT and its concerned attached agencies shall take necessary steps to implement the  
13 tourism development plan appropriately aligned and incorporated in the National Tourism  
14 Development Plan.

15  
16 **SECTION 5. *Appropriations***. – The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department’s  
17 program the implementation of this Act, the necessary funding of which shall be included in  
18 the annual General Appropriations Act.

19  
20 **SECTION 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations***. – Within sixty (60) days from the  
21 effectivity of this Act, the DOT, in consultation with the local government unit of Quezon City,  
22 shall promulgate rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

23  
24 **SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause***. – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders,  
25 memoranda, rules, and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Acts  
26 are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

27  
28 **SECTION 8. *Separability Clause***. – If any part or provision of this Act is declared  
29 unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining parts of provisions not affected shall remain in full  
30 force and effect.

31  
32 **SECTION 9. *Effectivity***. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in  
33 the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,