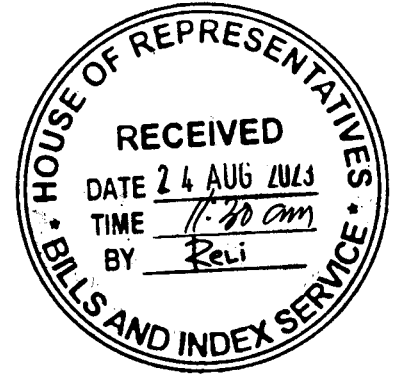


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session



House Bill No. 8973

Introduced by Representative MARIA VANESSA C. AUMENTADO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill is in line with the administration's thrust of promoting productivity-enhancing investments, particularly, in the tourism industry. Tourism is not only an important economic development tool, the abundant opportunities that the sector creates in terms of regular employment and even job creation at the grassroot level is undeniable. In order to boost our tourism industry, it is foremost to make it more convenient for travelers to go around the country. As such, it is imperative that we should help decongest the bottleneck in the Manila Airport by developing existing airports such as the Ubay Airport.

Ubay Airport, is a community airport located in Camambugan, Ubay, Bohol. It was originally built by the Americans before World War II and was used in the ensuing war. It has a land area of 54 hectares owned by the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP), an agency attached to the Department of Transportation. It has a runway of two (2) kilometers expandable to three (3) kilometers in a flat terrain which is ideal for airport development with a huge potential for expansion.

Presently, the airport has no existing facilities, no scheduled service and only light planes are utilizing it. However, Ubay airport is used as alternative airport during times of natural disaster, calamities and in emergencies. It has proven its usefulness and viability when it was prominently used in transporting relief goods during the 2013 Bohol earthquake and during Super Typhoon Odette in December 2021.

There is a dire need to develop and upgrade the Ubay Airport for it to have capability to handle commercial aircrafts; it can also host aviation schools and serve as training facility to relieve Mactan-Cebu International Airport and the Tagbilaran Airport from training flights of aviation students. Upgrading Ubay Airport will

further enhance the tourism industry, create more business opportunities in that part of the Visayan region to include the nearby provinces of Mindanao, and, in effect, it will significantly redound to the benefit of the whole country.

It is thus, that approval of this proposed measure is earnestly requested.



MARIA VANESSA C. AUMENTADO

Representative

Second (2nd) District, BOHOL

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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS

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House Bill No. **8973**

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AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR THE UBAY AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT TO ACCOMMODATE COMMERCIAL DOMESTIC AND AVIATION TRAINING FLIGHTS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

Section 1. This Act shall be known as the "Ubay Airport Development Act".

Section 2. Statement of Policy – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to develop airports under the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP) to service areas with a strong potential for tourism, agro-industrial, commerce and industry to spur the economic development therein. Towards this end, the Ubay airport is included in the CAAP annual investment plan for development.

Section 3. Development Trust – the Ubay Airport Development Project shall cover its feasibility study, engineering design, improvement of the existing runway, construction of a terminal building with appurtenance thereto, installation of navigation and lighting facilities and all the indispensable equipment required for domestic commercial flights and aviation training flights.

Section 4. Appropriations. The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

Section 5. Effectivity – this Act shall take effect upon its publication in a newspaper of general circulation of the Official Gazette.

Approved.