



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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 180



Introduced by Representative MARLESA “DOC MARLY” HOFER-HASIM

EXPLANATORY NOTE

As the capital of Zamboanga Sibugay, Ipil is strategically located along Sibugay Bay, offering vast potential for maritime and eco-tourism development. However, the absence of adequate docking and marine transport infrastructure continues to hinder the full realization of this potential.

Currently, Ipil lacks a formal and reliable wharf facility that would enable regular, secure, and efficient marine transport. This infrastructural gap has constrained the growth of local economic activities, particularly those related to fisheries, inter-island transport, and small-scale coastal trade. Without proper facilities, communities reliant on these industries face limitations in mobility, access to markets, and economic expansion.

To address this, the proposed measure seeks to establish a dedicated wharf in Ipil. This facility will serve as the primary embarkation and disembarkation point for marine transport and will fulfill two key objectives: first, to stimulate local economic growth by facilitating the efficient movement of people, goods, and services; and second, to support the long-term development of maritime and ecotourism-related opportunities in the area.

The readiness of the Ipil Diversion Road Network, which provides direct and efficient land access to the proposed wharf site, further strengthens the viability and strategic importance of this project. With the road infrastructure in place, the municipality is prepared to accommodate the anticipated increase in transport volume and economic activity that the wharf will generate.

The development of this facility aligns with the national government’s broader commitment to promote inclusive growth, strengthen regional connectivity, and advance sustainable tourism in underdeveloped areas. Moreover, it is envisioned to create long-term socioeconomic benefits for the residents of Ipil and its neighboring municipalities.

In light of the foregoing, the immediate passage and implementation of this proposed measure is respectfully and earnestly sought.

MARLESA “DOC MARLY” HOFER-HASIM
Representative, 2nd District of Zamboanga Sibugay



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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A WHARF IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF IPIL, PROVINCE OF
ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY TO SERVE AS A GATEWAY TO BULUAN ISLAND FOR
ECONOMIC AND TOURISM 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 "*Ipil Wharf Development Act.*"

2
3 **SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to
4 promote inclusive and sustainable economic development in rural and coastal communities.
5 Toward this end, the State shall provide for the necessary infrastructure to support local industries,
6 small-scale commerce, and community-based tourism, in a manner that safeguards the
7 environment and promotes equitable access.

8
9 **SECTION 3. *Establishment of the Wharf.*** - There shall be established a wharf in the
10 Municipality of Ipil, Province of Zamboanga Sibugay, to serve as the main transport and logistics
11 gateway to Buluan Island. The wharf shall facilitate the movement of goods, services, and
12 passengers and shall be designed to support both economic activity and regulated tourism
13 operations.

1 **SECTION 4. *Implementing Agency.*** - The Department of Transportation (DOTr), in
2 coordination with the Department of Tourism (DOT), the Department of Public Works and
3 Highways (DPWH), and the Municipal Government of Ipil, shall be the primary implementing
4 agencies for the construction, development, and operation of the wharf.

5
6 **SECTION 5. *Appropriations*** - The amount necessary to implement the establishment of
7 the Ipil Wharf shall be included in the General Appropriations Act.

8
9 **SECTION 6. *Separability Clause.*** - If any provision of this Act is declared invalid, the
10 remainder or any provision hereof not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

11
12 **SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.***- All laws, decrees, executive orders and other presidential
13 issuances which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified
14 accordingly.

15
16 **SECTION 8. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
17 in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

18 *Approved,*