



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 804

Introduced by **Representative EDUARDO R. RAMA, JR.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This measure seeks to convert the F. Vestil Road, located in the City of Cebu, an existing barangay road which begins at the C. Padilla St. and terminates at a junction along the Cebu South Coastal Secondary Road, into a national road.

In 2021, the then district engineer of the City of Cebu proposed that several local roads be converted into national roads. Among the roads submitted for consideration is F. Vestil St., a 4-lane road measuring 1, 207 m. Unfortunately, to this date, it remains to be a barangay road.

The Department of Public Works and Highways has previously provided a set of classification criteria for the conversion of local roads into national roads. F. Vestil St. satisfies two (2) of the criteria in order to be converted into a national road, namely, it is a road that (a) *directly connects major government infrastructure to national primary roads or other national secondary roads*; and (b) *the road directly connects tourist service centers to a national primary road*.

F. Vestil Street connects the Natalio Bacalso Avenue (N. Bacalso Ave.) and Candido Padilla Street (C. Padilla Street) to the Cebu South Coastal Road in the South Road Properties (SRP). The aforementioned road remains as the only route for constituents living in the 2nd (South) district of Cebu City to access major public infrastructure like the South Road Properties (SRP) and the Cebu – Cordova Link Expressway (CCLEX).

The SRP is Cebu City's special economic zone and mixed – use development, with several commercial and hospitality establishments; further, the CCLEX is located in the SRP and provides constituents with a route to the Mactan-Cebu International Airport by passing through the municipality of Cordova instead of having to go through the north of Cebu City and Mandaue City. Based on the criteria cited above, F. Vestil Street would qualify as a national road, as it connects major government infrastructure and tourist service centers to national primary roads and other national secondary roads.

Being one of the fastest growing metropolitan cities in the Philippines, and a global tourist destination, one of the issues which plagues Cebu City is the worsening traffic condition. As of 2023, the Cebu City Traffic Management Committee has requested for the opening of roads leading to the downtown area due to the traffic problem along N. Bacalso Ave.

of roads leading to the downtown area due to the traffic problem along N. Bacalso Ave. There are significant bottlenecks in the major road due to the construction of the Cebu Bus Rapid Transit. Improving access roads which connects primary and secondary roads will allow traffic decongestion in key points of the city. Hence, instead of residents traversing the entirety of N. Bacalso Ave., they could pass through the F. Vestil St. and shorten their travel time to reach their destination. The improvement and proper maintenance of F. Vestil is crucial for improving the lives of the Cebuano people and bolstering the economic activity in the City of Cebu.

Despite being an essential thoroughfare, the F. Vestil St. remains to be a dirt road due to lack of funding and maintenance. Converting it to a national road will provide the necessary financial support for its improvement. It shall also ensure that a budget shall be allocated for its maintenance in the future.

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



REP. EDUARDO R. RAMA, JR.
2nd District, City of Cebu



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HOUSE BILL NO. 804

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**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONVERSION OF THE F. VESTIL
ROAD, LOCATED IN THE CITY OF CEBU, INTO A NATIONAL ROAD
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1 **SECTION 1.** The F. Vestil St., located in the City of Cebu, an existing barangay
2 road which begins at the C. Padilla St. and terminates at a junction along the Cebu South
3 Coastal Secondary Road, measuring 1, 207 m, is hereby converted into a National Road.
4

5 **SECTION 2.** The Secretary of Public Works and Highways shall include in the
6 Department's program the improvement, repair, and maintenance of the said road, the
7 initial funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.
8

9 **SECTION 3.** All laws and parts of any law, order, rule and regulation or parts
10 thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.
11

12 **SECTION. 4.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
13 *Official Gazette* or a newspaper of general circulation.
14

15 Approved,