



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City



TWENTIETH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1967

Introduced by Representative Maria Angela S. Garcia

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Province of Bataan is positioned to be a major urban center within the country. With rapid urbanization in the locality as well as several major projects and initiatives in the pipeline, an influx of economic activity is expected in the coming years.

One of the major anticipated projects is the Bataan-Cavite Interlink bridge (BCIB). The BCIB will connect NCR, Region III, and Region IV-A, localities that serve as major engines of growth in Luzon. This will effectively link the major industrial areas North and South of Manila. This will cater to approximately 42.3 million people and a combined GDP of roughly \$206B.

The projected influx of economic activity into the Province of Bataan necessitates the development of complementary infrastructure that will meet the needs of both locals and visitors to the locality. This will entail the upgrading of existing infrastructure and the development of new facilities to cater to the needs of the growing local economy. The Roman Superhighway, the Province's major national road, is one such facility that will need further development and strengthening.

With the development of the BCIB, Roman Superhighway will be servicing not just the Province of Bataan, but all other areas that will be connected to the locality. Given this, its conversion and maintenance as an all-weather road that will be able to maintain usability under higher vehicular load and evolving climate conditions is necessary.

Support of this bill is earnestly requested from my colleagues.


MARIA ANGELA S. GARCIA
Third District, Bataan



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1 **AN ACT MANDATING THE FULL CONVERSION AND MAINTENANCE OF ROMAN**
2 **SUPERHIGHWAY IN THE PROVINCE OF BATAAN AS AN ALL-WEATHER ROAD**
3

4 *Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in*
5 *Congress assembled:*
6

7 **SECTION 1.** The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) shall undertake
8 the full rehabilitation and upgrading as an all-weather road of the Roman Superhighway
9 in the Province of Bataan stretching from the Municipality of Dinalupihan to the
10 Municipality of Mariveles. Thereafter, the DPWH shall be responsible for the
11 maintenance of Roman Superhighway and shall ensure that it remains safe and
12 optimally serviceable.

13 **SEC. 2.** The DPWH, in coordination with the Region III Regional Office of the
14 Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Provincial
15 Government of Bataan, shall evaluate and assess the current condition of Roman
16 Superhighway to identify the necessary engineering works to be undertaken for the
17 upgrading of the said road. Relative thereto, a feasibility study shall be conducted by
18 the DPWH to primarily plan the extent and duration of the full rehabilitation, upgrading
19 and maintenance of the Roman Superhighway into an all-weather road.

20 **SEC. 3.** As a fully rehabilitated and upgraded all-weather road, the Roman
21 Superhighway shall have the following characteristics:

- 22 a) Maintains trafficability by vehicles under all types of weather conditions including
23 torrential rains and flooding;
24 b) The capacity to maintain optimal trafficability even with high vehicular load

1 **SEC 4.** Within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DPWH, the DENR, in
2 consultation with the Provincial Government of Bataan, private sector experts and other
3 stakeholders shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper and
4 effective implementation of this Act. In formulating the said rules and regulations, the
5 characteristics indicated in Section 3 of this Act shall be further defined in consideration
6 of local environmental conditions.

7 **SEC. 5.** The amount necessary to cover the rehabilitation, upgrading and maintenance
8 and of Roman Superhighway and its corresponding feasibility study and detailed
9 engineering works shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. Funding
10 may likewise be sourced from public-private partnerships (PPP), grants, loans, official
11 development assistance (ODA) and other sources not otherwise prohibited by law.

12 **SEC. 6.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official
13 Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.