



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Twentieth Congress
1st Regular Session
HOUSE BILL NO. 2675



Introduced by Rep. Elisa T. Kho and Rep. Antonio T. Kho

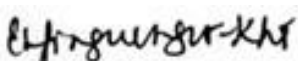
EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill proposes to upgrade the Barangay Tagpu Alas-San Juan Road, located in the Municipality of Mandaon, Masbate, from a local road to a National Secondary Road. The primary rationale for this conversion stems from the road's significant strategic importance. It serves as a crucial connector between the Municipality of Mandaon and the Municipality of Balud, traversing multiple barangays and providing access to key trade routes. Furthermore, this road offers a viable and, notably, the shortest alternate route for travel between Mandaon and Masbate City.

Despite its vital role, the current classification as a local road means that its upgrading, rehabilitation, and annual maintenance fall under the responsibility of the local government units (LGUs). However, the frequent inadequacy of local funds has made these essential tasks taxing and challenging, consistently draining the LGUs' annual appropriations.

Consequently, the bill argues for the urgent need to convert this local road into a national secondary road. This reclassification would transfer the responsibility for its upkeep and proper maintenance to the national government, ensuring sustained improvement and better infrastructure for the benefit of the constituents who rely on this vital route.

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


REP. ELISA T. KHO, M.D., FPCCP


REP. ANTONIO T. KHO



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**AN ACT
CONVERTING THE BARANGAY TAGPU-ALAS-SAN JUAN ROAD IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF MANDAON, PROVINCE OF MASBATE INTO A NATIONAL
SECONDARY ROAD, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. Conversion into National Secondary Road. The Barangay Tagpu Alas-San Juan Road, stretching from Barangay Tagpu Alas to San Juan in the Municipality of Mandaon, Province of Masbate, is hereby converted into a National Secondary Road.

SECTION 2. Scope and Importance. The said road serves as a vital link connecting the Municipality of Mandaon to the Municipality of Balud. It traverses several barangays and provides access to important trade routes. Furthermore, it constitutes a viable and the shortest alternate route for travel from the Municipality of Mandaon to Masbate City.

SECTION 3. Rationale for Conversion. The current classification of the Barangay Tagpu Alas-San Juan Road as a local road has placed the burden of its upgrading, rehabilitation, and annual maintenance on the local government units (LGUs). Due to frequent inadequacy of local funds, these essential tasks have become taxing and challenging, consistently draining the LGUs' annual appropriations. The conversion of this road into a National Secondary Road is imperative to ensure its improved upkeep and proper maintenance by the national government, given its strategic importance and the significant benefits it provides to the constituents.

SECTION 4. Implementing Agency. The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) shall include the Barangay Tagpu Alas-San Juan Road in its road development program and shall henceforth be responsible for its construction, repair, and maintenance, and the allocation of necessary funds for said purpose.

SECTION 5. Appropriations. The Secretary of Public Works and Highways shall include in the Department's program the funding requirements for the upgrading, rehabilitation, and maintenance of the Barangay Tagpu Alas-San Juan Road. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the continued maintenance and improvement of the said road shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 6. Repealing Clause. All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SECTION 7. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,