

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

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **3997**



Introduced by **Representative RAYMOND ADRIAN SALCEDA**

AN ACT
CONVERTING THE SAN ISIDRO – FLORISTA – PANOYPOY – BASCARAN
ROAD IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF JOVELLAR, PROVINCE OF ALBAY INTO A
NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to convert the **San Isidro – Florista – Panoytoy – Bascaran Road** in the Municipality of Jovellar, Province of Albay, into a **national road** under the supervision of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH).

The road spans **7.835 kilometers**, with a right-of-way of fifteen (15) meters, and connects several interior barangays to the poblacion of Jovellar and adjoining municipalities. At present, maintenance depends on local government resources, which are inadequate to ensure consistent rehabilitation and upgrading. As a result, road conditions often deteriorate during typhoons and heavy rains, making access unreliable.

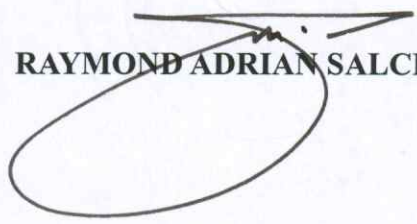
Conversion into a national road will secure continuous national government funding for its **improvement, repair, and maintenance**. This will yield multiple benefits:

- **Agriculture and Livelihood.** Jovellar is an agricultural municipality where residents depend on rice, corn, abaca, coconut, and root crops. The road provides farmers with access to markets in Guinobatan, Ligao, and the rest of the 3rd District. By upgrading it to national standards, farm-to-market transport costs will be reduced and producers will have greater access to post-harvest facilities and consolidation points.
- **Tourism and Local Economy.** Jovellar is home to eco-tourism sites such as waterfalls, caves, and the Quitinday Hills. The San Isidro – Florista – Panoytoy – Bascaran corridor provides access to several of these sites. A national road will stimulate tourism activity and create new livelihood opportunities for local communities.
- **Disaster Preparedness and Social Services.** Jovellar lies in the hazard zone of Mayon Volcano and is highly exposed to typhoons and flooding. An upgraded national road

ensures that residents and government agencies can respond effectively in times of disaster, while also providing schoolchildren, teachers, and health workers with safer and more reliable passage.

- **Integration with Strategic Corridors.** This road strengthens Jovellar's linkage to the broader **Hangin Road corridor**, which connects Pantao Port in Libon to the Bicol International Airport in Daraga and serves as the backbone of the renewable energy and logistics network of the province. Ensuring Jovellar's interior barangays are tied into this corridor will enhance regional connectivity and support investments in food security and renewable energy.

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



RAYMOND ADRIAN SALCEDA

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

SECTION 1. *Conversion into a National Road.* The San Isidro – Florista – Panoytoy – Bascaran Road in the Municipality of Jovellar, Province of Albay, with a total length of seven and 835/1000 (7.835) kilometers and a right-of-way width of fifteen (15) meters, is hereby converted into a national road under the supervision of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH).

SEC. 2. *Inclusion in the DPWH Road Program.* The Secretary of Public Works and Highways shall include in the Department's program the improvement, repair, and maintenance of the said road. The funding for such shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 3. *Implementing Rules.* The Secretary of the Department of Public Works and Highways shall issue the necessary rules, orders, and circulars to implement this Act.

SEC. 4. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,