

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

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3998



Introduced by **Representative RAYMOND ADRIAN SALCEDA**

AN ACT
CONVERTING THE POLANGUI – NASISI – GUINOBATAN ROAD (POLANGUI SECTION) IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBAY INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to convert the **Polangui – Nasisi – Guinobatan Road (Polangui Section)**, spanning **6.985 kilometers** with a **15-meter right-of-way**, into a **national road** under the supervision of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH).

At present, maintenance of this vital artery depends on the limited funds of local governments, which constrains its rehabilitation and improvement. By converting it into a national road, the responsibility for upgrading, repair, and long-term maintenance will be assumed by the DPWH, ensuring higher construction standards and consistent funding support.

The Polangui – Nasisi – Guinobatan corridor serves multiple strategic purposes:

- **Agricultural Productivity and Market Linkage.** Polangui and Guinobatan are major agricultural producers of rice, corn, coconut, and abaca in Albay. This road links farms to consolidation and trading centers in Ligao City and Guinobatan, reducing transport costs and improving farm-gate prices.
- **Mobility of People and Goods.** The road eases traffic congestion on the Maharlika Highway by providing an alternative route between western Polangui and Guinobatan. It strengthens intra-provincial connectivity and supports the efficient flow of goods to and from the upland barangays.
- **Disaster Preparedness and Response.** Albay is highly exposed to typhoons, floods, and volcanic hazards. This road provides an alternate access route during emergencies, facilitating the delivery of relief goods and enabling faster evacuation and deployment of response teams.

- **Integration with Regional Infrastructure.** This section of the road is part of the larger **network of diversion and connector roads in the 3rd District of Albay**, which complement the **Hangin Road corridor** that links Pantao Port, the Bicol International Airport, and strategic renewable energy sites. By upgrading this section to national road status, the government strengthens a transport backbone that supports food security, trade, and energy development in the province.

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



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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 Polangui – Nasisi – Guinobatan Road (Polangui Section), which traverses the Municipality of Polangui, the City of Ligao, and connects to the Municipality of Guinobatan in the Province of Albay, with a length of six and 985/1000 (6.985) 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,