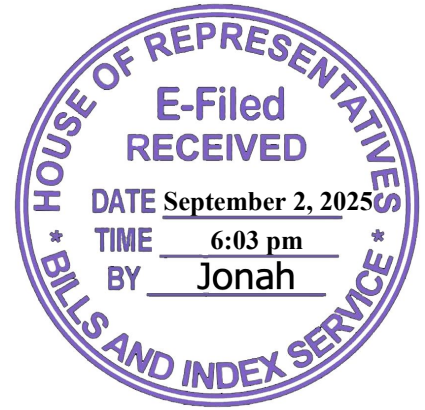


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4298



Introduced by Hon. Julienne "Jam" L. Baronda

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 4767, enacted on June 18, 1966, declared the Boulevard and certain shoreline areas in the Districts of Molo and Arevalo, Iloilo City, as the “Iloilo City Park.” While intended to serve as a public recreational space, this designation has, for decades, restricted the use, disposition, and proper titling of the affected lands—even as many portions have long been occupied, improved, and developed for residential, commercial, and other productive purposes by private individuals and entities.

With Iloilo City’s sustained socio-economic growth and rapid urban expansion, it is both practical and equitable to revisit this outdated designation. The areas in question no longer function as a public park, having been integrated into the city’s urban fabric and repurposed in ways consistent with development needs.

Reclassifying these lands as alienable and disposable will regularize existing beneficial ownership, enable lawful titling and registration, and open opportunities for responsible investment. This measure will also generate additional revenues for the local government through real property taxes and related fees—resources that can be reinvested into genuine public infrastructure and community services.

Accordingly, this bill seeks to repeal Republic Act No. 4767 and declare the Boulevard and subject shoreline areas of Molo and Arevalo as alienable and disposable lands of the public domain. These may thereafter be acquired and titled through the prevailing modes of disposition provided under Commonwealth Act No. 141 (Public Land Act) and Presidential Decree No. 1529 (Property Registration Decree).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Jam L. Baronda".

HON. JULIENNE “JAM” L. BARONDA
Representative, Lone District of Iloilo City

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HOUSE BILL NO. 4298

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AN ACT REPEALING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4767 AND DECLARING THE BOULEVARD, THE SHORELINE AREAS OF THE DISTRICTS OF MOLO TO AREVALO PREVIOUSLY DECLARED AS ILOILO CITY PARK, AS ALIENABLE AND DISPOSABLE LANDS, AND AUTHORIZING THEIR PRIVATE OWNERSHIP IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXISTING LAND REGISTRATION LAWS

SECTION 1. Repeal of Republic Act No. 4767. — Republic Act No. 4767, entitled "*An Act Declaring the Boulevard, Public Lands Between it and the Shores and the Territorial Waters from the District of Molo to the District of Arevalo, Within the City of Iloilo, a City Park, to be Known as Iloilo City Park*", is hereby set aside, and any provisions of law, presidential decree, proclamation, executive order, rule, or regulation inconsistent herewith are repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 2. Declaration as Alienable and Disposable Lands. — The shoreline areas of the Districts of Molo and Arevalo in Iloilo City, previously declared as the Iloilo City Park under Republic Act No. 4767, are hereby declared as alienable and disposable lands of the public domain. These lands shall be subject to disposition and registration in accordance with the prevailing laws, rules, and regulations governing the registration and disposition of alienable and disposable public lands.

SEC. 3. Disposition and Registration. — The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), through its appropriate offices, shall conduct the necessary cadastral survey, classification, and verification of the subject lands to determine the metes and bounds thereof. Thereafter, the lands may be disposed of to qualified applicants in accordance with Commonwealth Act No. 141, as amended, and other applicable laws on public land disposition, and may be registered under Presidential Decree No. 1529 and related registration laws.

SEC. 4. Priority Rights. — Actual occupants who have possessed, developed, or cultivated the subject lands in good faith prior to the effectivity of this Act shall be given priority in the application for disposition, subject to proof of such occupation and compliance with the requirements of existing laws.

SEC. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations. — Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DENR, in coordination with the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD), the City Government of Iloilo, and other concerned agencies, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 6. Separability Clause. — If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

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

Approved,