



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4632



Introduced by Representative LEODY "ODIE" F. TARRIELA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

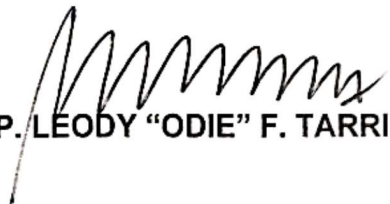
Tamaraw (*Bubalus Mindorensis*) is a species of the wild dwarf buffalo endemic to the Island of Mindoro. Large concentrations of the tamaraw are found in the province of Occidental Mindoro, particularly in the Mt. Iglit-Baco National Park. Often featured not only in festivals, but also in the province's official seal, the tamaraw has been a significant symbol in the province's cultural history.

Despite efforts towards their conservation, the tamaraw population has dwindled from thousands to sparse hundreds during the last decade. The main drivers of this tragedy are illegal poaching and habitat loss due to deforestation.

The local government of Occidental Mindoro, in partnership with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Tamaraw Conservation Program (DENR-TCP) and other socio-civic groups, have initiated efforts to protect the tamaraws and their habitat by raising awareness to their dire circumstances through various programs and activities.

To emphasize the tamaraws' ecological and socio-cultural importance to the province of Occidental Mindoro, this bill seeks to rename the Mindoro West Coastal Road, a major thoroughfare connecting the mainland municipalities in Occidental Mindoro, to Tamaraw Highway.

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


REP. LEODY "ODIE" F. TARRIELA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
H.B. No. 4632

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AN ACT
RENAMING MINDORO WEST COASTAL ROAD IN THE PROVINCE OF
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO TO TAMARAW HIGHWAY

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

1 **Section 1.** The Mindoro West Coastal Road, traversing the Municipalities of
2 Abra de Ilog, Mamburao, Santa Cruz, Sablayan, Calintaan, Rizal, San Jose and
3 Magsaysay in the Province Occidental Mindoro is hereby renamed as the Tamaraw
4 Highway.

5
6 **Section 2.** The Department of Public Works and Highways shall issue the
7 necessary rules, orders, and circulars to implement the provisions of this Act within
8 sixty (60) days from its effectivity.

9
10 **Section 3.** This Act Shall take effect in fifteen (15) days after its publication in
11 the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

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Approved,