

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 5184



Introduced by the Hon. Dibu S. Tuan

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks the rehabilitation and modernization of the Allah Valley Airport in the Municipality of Surallah in the Province of South Cotabato.

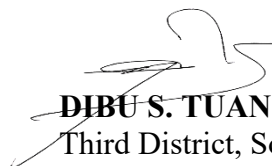
The Allah Valley Airport was once a bustling hub in the 1970s and 1980s with Fokker 50s and BAC 111s flying in and out. It served as a vital link for commerce and mobility in the SOCCSKSARGEN region. From Surallah we could fly to Cebu and Davao - and there was only one airline back then. Imagine the possibilities now, with two major airlines and several others on the rise. My constituents who want to visit family in the Visayas or Northern Mindanao can easily fly from Surallah to their desired destination if Allah Valley Airport was operational.

The Allah Valley Airport was a symbol of connectivity and progress. But today, it stands silent - its asphalt runway intact, its potential untapped. Worse, locals sometimes use it as a mere racing strip.

Reviving the Allah Valley Airport is not just about planes or dreams – it's about prosperity. It can foster agricultural empowerment. It can boost tourism development. And it will definitely encourage business expansion. Rehabilitation and modernization of said vital facility is also a matter of social equity. It is a promise of mobility for all. It is also an indispensable requisite for our disaster response. And certainly infrastructure development and the consequent airport operations will be a beacon of hope for our youth seeking dignified livelihood.

This measure is not merely a plea to revive a dormant runway. It is a call to reconnect a region rich in history, culture, and economic promise to the broader lifelines of national development.

In view of the foregoing considerations, the approval of this measure, at the earliest possible time, is earnestly sought.


DIBU S. TUAN
Third District, South Cotabato

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Quezon City, Metro Manila

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE REHABILITATION AND MODERNIZATION OF THE ALLAH VALLEY AIRPORT IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SURALLAH, PROVINCE OF SOUTH COTABATO

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known and referred to as the “Allah Valley Airport Rehabilitation and Modernization Act.”

SEC. 2. It is hereby declared the policy of the State to develop, rehabilitate and/or modernize airports under the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP) to service areas with strong potentials for tourism, agro-industrial, commerce and industry to spur the economic development therein. Towards this end, the Allah Valley Airport is included in the CAAP annual investment plan for development.

SEC. 3. The Allah Valley Airport Rehabilitation and Modernization Project shall cover the feasibility study, engineering design, improvement of the existing runway, construction of a terminal building with appurtenance thereto, installation of navigation and lighting facilities and all the necessary equipment for domestic commercial flights and aviation training flights.

SEC. 4. The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,