



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila



Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **6631**

Introduced by Representative Lorenz R. Defensor

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to prohibit the naming of public infrastructure after elected public officials within five years after their death and provide penalties for violation thereof.

Numerous public infrastructures have been named after former presidents, national heroes, and distinguished local officials in recognition of their significant contributions to national development and public welfare. Such commemorative acts serve to honor their legacy and inspire civic pride by celebrating their exemplary service and dedication to the Filipino people.

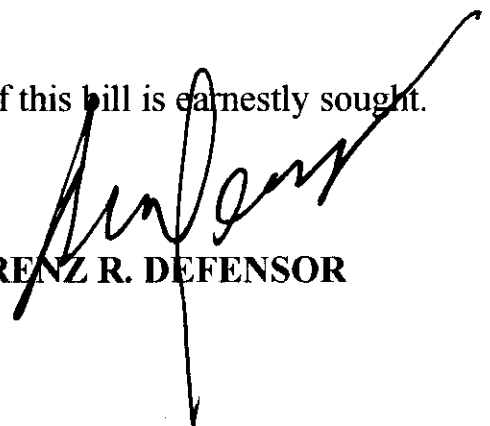
However, the premature naming of public infrastructures after recently deceased officials has, in some instances, been used as a tool for political promotion or self-aggrandizement. This practice undermines the purpose of commemoration and risks transforming public infrastructure, which is funded by taxpayers, into symbols of political partisanship rather than lasting monuments to public service.

Under Republic Act No. 1059, the naming of public places or institutions after living persons is expressly prohibited, except when it is a condition in a donation in favor of the government. This safeguard was established to prevent the misuse of public infrastructure for personal or familial glorification.

This proposed measure builds upon that principle by extending the prohibition to a five-year posthumous period, thereby ensuring that such honors

are conferred only after sufficient historical reflection and public discernment. It seeks to uphold integrity, impartiality, and historical objectivity in the recognition of public figures, ensuring that the naming of public infrastructure remains an act of genuine historical merit rather than a matter of political convenience.

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



LORENZ R. DEFENSOR



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AN ACT

**PROHIBITING THE NAMING OF PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE
AFTER ELECTED PUBLIC OFFICIALS WITHIN FIVE YEARS AFTER
THEIR DEATH AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION
THEREOF**

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

SECTION 1. ***Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as the
“*Posthumous Integrity Act.*”

SEC. 2. ***Declaration of Policy.*** – It is the policy of the State to uphold
integrity, transparency, and historical objectivity in the commemoration of
public officials and prevent premature honors that may compromise public trust.
Toward this end, the State shall ensure that the naming of public infrastructures
after elected public officials is implemented in a fair, consistent and timely
manner, and their recognition is accorded only after the lapse of an appropriate
period.

1 SEC. 3. ***Prohibition.*** – No public infrastructure shall be named after
2 any elected public official within the five-year period after the death of the
3 elected public official.

4 Any act of naming or renaming public infrastructure in violation of this
5 Act shall be void, and the proper authorities shall cause the immediate
6 restoration of its former name, or the adoption of another name consistent with
7 this Act and other existing laws, rules or regulations.

8 For purposes of this Act, the term “*public infrastructure*” refers to any
9 facilities and services for public use, such as roads, streets, highways, avenues,
10 bridges, parks, plazas, public schools, public hospitals, government buildings,
11 and other public institutions.

12 SEC. 4. ***Exception.*** – The five-year posthumous prohibition period
13 shall not apply to highly exceptional circumstances as may be determined by the
14 duly authorized naming entities and upon evaluation and recommendation of the
15 National Historical Commission of the Philippines.

16 The exceptional circumstances include the following:

17 (a) When the death of a public official results from assassination or
18 violence directly arising from the faithful performance of official duties in the
19 service of the country;

20 (b) When the public official dies while saving or attempting to save the
21 lives of others;

1 (c) When the death of a public official arises from acts of patriotism,
2 heroism or valor in the service of the nation; and

3 (d) When a public official dies in the lawful and faithful discharge of
4 official duties and responsibilities.

5 SEC. 5. **Penalties.** – Any person who authorizes, approves or
6 implements the naming of any public infrastructure in violation of the
7 provisions of this Act shall suffer the penalty of imprisonment of six (6) months
8 or a fine of One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00), or both, at the
9 discretion of the court.

10 If the offender is a public official or employee, the official or employee
11 shall also be held administratively liable under existing civil service laws, rules
12 and regulations.

13 SEC. 6. **Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, executive orders,
14 proclamations, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the
15 provisions of this Act are hereby amended or repealed accordingly.

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

18 Approved,