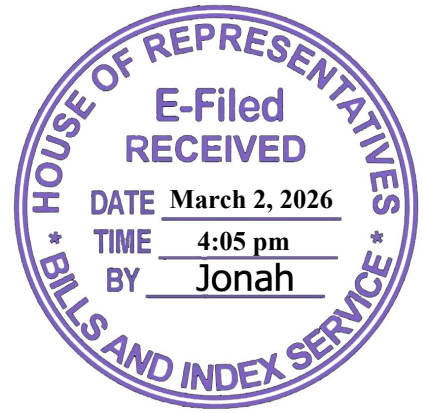




**Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City**

**Twentieth Congress
1st Regular Session
HOUSE BILL NO. 8214**



Introduced by Rep. Antonio T. Kho and Rep. Elisa “Olga” T. Kho

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A modern, resilient, and well-integrated road network is indispensable to inclusive growth, especially in geographically dispersed and resource-rich provinces. The State, therefore, prioritizes the upgrading of critical local roads that function as economic lifelines but remain constrained by limited local resources.

The Claveria–San Isidro–Peñafrancia Road, located in the Province of Masbate, is presently under the administrative jurisdiction of the concerned Local Government Units. Despite its local classification, the road performs a function that is undeniably national in character. It interconnects multiple barangays and municipalities, serving as a principal corridor for the transport of agricultural produce, fishery resources, and other goods that sustain both local markets and inter-island trade. This road likewise plays a strategic role in ensuring access to essential public services. It connects communities to schools, rural health units, government centers, and commercial hubs, thereby directly influencing the quality of life of residents.

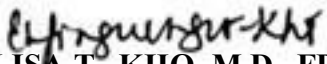
Moreover, it serves as a vital access route during emergencies, including disaster response and evacuation operations, particularly in a province frequently exposed to typhoons and other natural hazards. Notwithstanding its importance, the Claveria–San Isidro–Peñafrancia Road remains inadequately developed. Several segments are narrow, poorly paved, or susceptible to damage during adverse weather conditions. The financial limitations of the Local Government Units concerned have hindered the implementation of comprehensive and sustained infrastructure improvements, resulting in inefficiencies in transport, increased travel time, and higher costs for goods and services.

The conversion of this road into a national road will vest its administration, planning, and maintenance in the National Government through the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH). Such reclassification will facilitate the infusion of national funding, the application of higher engineering standards, and the execution of long-term development plans, including widening, paving, and climate-resilient upgrades.

More importantly, the proposed measure is expected to unlock the economic potential of the affected areas. By improving road conditions and connectivity, it will enhance market access for farmers and fisherfolk, encourage investments, promote tourism, and generate employment opportunities. It will also strengthen regional integration within Masbate and improve linkage to nearby provinces. In essence, the conversion of the Claveria–San Isidro–Peñafrancia Road into a national road is not merely a matter of administrative reclassification, but a strategic intervention aimed at fostering equitable development, improving public welfare, and building resilient communities.

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


REP. ANTONIO T. KHO


REP. ELISA T. KHO, M.D., FPCCP



**Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City**

**Twentieth Congress
1st Regular Session
HOUSE BILL NO. 8214**

Introduced by Rep. Antonio T. Kho and Rep. Elisa “Olga” T. Kho

**AN ACT CONVERTING THE CLAVERIA–SAN ISIDRO–PEÑAFRANCIA ROAD,
PROVINCE OF MASBATE, INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. The Claveria–San Isidro–Peñafrancia Road in the Municipality of Claveria, Province of Masbate is hereby converted into a National Road under the jurisdiction and supervision of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH).

SECTION 2. The technical description of the road shall be determined by the Engineering District Office and the Secretary of Public Works and Highways.

SECTION 3. 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 of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 4. All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the official gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,