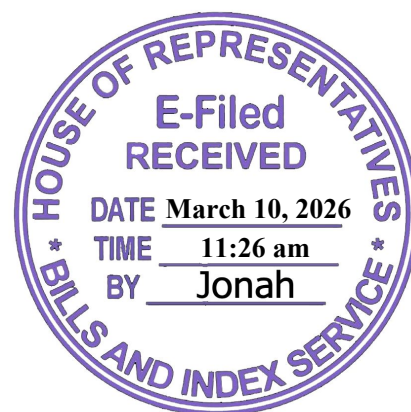


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 8401



Introduced by Representative ERIC G. YAP

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to terminate the collection of toll fees along the portion of the Benguet Road (Kennon Road) from Klondyke's Spring to Camp Six, and to repeal Executive Order (EO) No. 34, Series of 1954, as amended, which provides the legal basis for such toll collection.

The Baguio-Bontoc-Halsema Highway-Kennon National Toll Road currently includes three toll gates situated in Camp 1, Camp 6, and Acop, Tublay, Benguet. The toll collection at Camp Six has been implemented pursuant to EO 34, issued by President Ramon Magsaysay on June 1, 1954. This order authorized the imposition of toll fees along specified sections of the Benguet Road to support its maintenance at that time.

However, the enactment of Republic Act (RA) No. 8794 on June 27, 2000, entitled "*An Act Imposing a Motor Vehicle User's Charge on Owners of all Types of Motor Vehicles and for Other Purposes*", fundamentally changed the framework for funding road maintenance nationwide. Under RA 8794, all motor vehicle user's charges are collected and deposited in special trust accounts in the National Treasury, including the Special Road Support Fund and the Special Local Road Fund. The Department of Public Works and Highways utilizes these funds for the repair, maintenance, and improvement of national and local roads across the country.

Given this statutory scheme, continued toll collection at Camp Six results in double charging of road users, once through the Motor Vehicle User's Charge mandated by RA 8794, and again through the tolls authorized under EO 34. This redundancy places an undue burden on thousands of motorists who traverse Kennon Road daily, many of whom are farmers from Benguet, Mountain Province, and nearby provinces transporting their agricultural produce to the La Trinidad Vegetable Trading Post or to various markets in Metro Manila.

Maintaining this duplicative toll system is inequitable and inconsistent with the current national policy on road user fees. Repealing EO 34 and terminating the Camp Six toll collection will promote fairness, ease the financial load on farmers and

local transporters, and align existing regulations with the comprehensive road funding structure established under RA 8794.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is respectfully sought.



HON. ERIC G. YAP

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **8401**

Introduced by Representative ERIC G. YAP

AN ACT
TERMINATING THE COLLECTION OF TOLL FEES ALONG THE PORTION
OF THE BENGUET ROAD (KENNON ROAD) FROM KLONDYKE'S SPRING
TO CAMP SIX, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 34,
SERIES OF 1954, AS AMENDED

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

Section 1. The collection of toll fees along the portion of the Benguet Road (Kennon Road) from Klondyke's Spring in Camp Six within the Mountain Province is hereby terminated.

SEC. 2. Executive Order No. 34, Series of 1954, as amended, is hereby repealed. All other laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, and other issuances, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,