THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

SENATE

S. No. 495

Introduced by Senator S. R. Osmeña III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

On July 27, 1998, the Iglesia ni Cristo, or Church of Christ, celebrated its 80th anniversary. In the span of 80 years, the Iglesia ni Cristo has undoubtedly gained numerical strength and recognition.

Indeed, the significant role of Iglesia ni Cristo in Philippine culture would not have been possible were it not for the efforts of its founder in establishing and propagating this religion. The invaluable contribution of Felix Y. Manalo to the culture of our people was even affirmed in the Supreme Court ruling in Manosca vs. Court of Appeals (G.R. No. 106440 January 29,1996) where the birthsite of the late Manalo was declared as a national historical landmark.

Along the lines set forth in the abovementioned Supreme Court ruling, this bill essentially seeks "to recognize the distinctive contribution of the late Felix Y. Manalo to the culture of the Philippines, rather than to commemorate his founding and leadership of the Iglesia ni Cristo" which might very well be held as unconstitutional by virtue of the avowed doctrine of the inviolability of the separation of the Church and State (Art. 2, Sec. 6, 1987 Constitution).

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

SERGIO OSMEÑA III
Senator

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SENATE

S. No. 495

Introduced by Senator S. R. Osmeña III

AN ACT
CHANGING THE NAME OF THE DON MARIANO MARCOS AVENUE LOCATED AT QUEZON CITY TO THE BISHOP FELIX MANALO AVENUE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1   SECTION 1. The Don Mariano Marcos Avenue located at Quezon City is

2   hereby renamed the Bishop Felix Manalo Avenue.

3   SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

4   Approved,