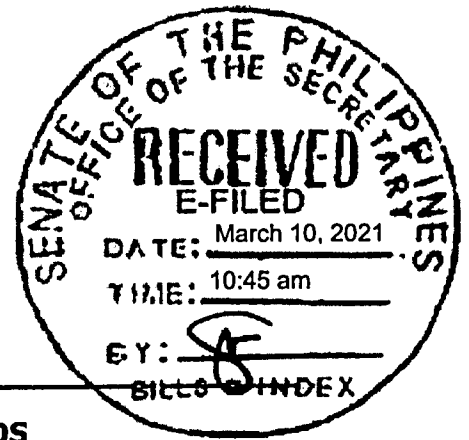


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

SENATE
S.B. No. 2095



Introduced by **SEN. IMEE R. MARCOS**

AN ACT CONVERTING THE JUNCTION LABBEN-MAPURAO-FLORA, APAYAO ROAD INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 9 of Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that "*The State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all.*"

The Province of Apayao was formerly a part of the Province of Kalinga-Apayao. Apayao became a separate and regular Province on 14 February 1995 by virtue of Republic Act No. 7878. According to the Commission on Audit (COA) 2019 Annual Audit Report, Apayao is located at the northwestern part of Luzon, bounded on the East and North by the Province of Cagayan, on the West by the Province of Ilocos Norte and Abra and on the South by the Province of Kalinga. It is composed of seven municipalities and 133 barangays.

With an approximate land area of 5,113 square kilometers, Apayao has the largest land area in the entire region sharing almost 26% of the Region's total land area of 19,748.85 square kilometers, according to the Department of Agriculture (DA). Apayao is also the top producer of cassava with 6.1 of the regional cassava production; second top producer of squash fruit 22.2% and third top producer of banana with 9.10%.

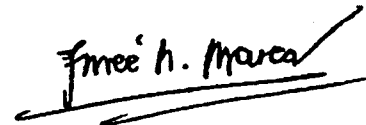
However, the transport of goods and the transit of people are impeded by the lack of efficient access roads especially to and from the municipalities of the Second District of Cagayan. The unavailability of a national road bridging the Province of Apayao to the municipalities of the Second District of Cagayan hampers the local trade and tourism activities and swelters potential growth of the affected areas.

According to the Inter-American Development Bank, provision of transport infrastructures is a common priority in capital investment to support economic activities

and provide opportunities for economic development. As such, the conversion of Junction Lasam-Labben-Mapurao located in the Municipality of Allacapan, Cagayan going to the Municipality of Flora, Apayao Road to a national road will surely bolster the economic development of both provinces by improving the trade, agriculture, and tourism sectors especially during this time of the pandemic.

This bill therefore seeks to provide an accessible road and efficient route by converting the 14-kilometer Junction Labben-Mapurao-Flora, Apayao Road to a national road to increase integration of trade and supply chains between Cagayan and Apayao and provide people better access to goods and services between these provinces.

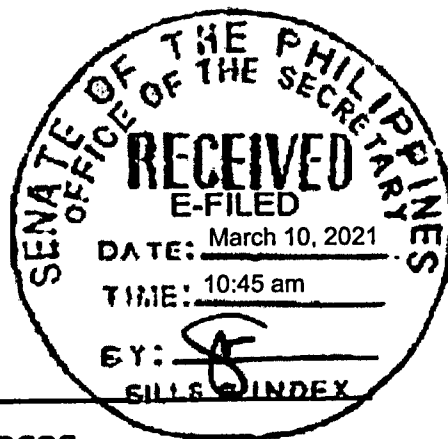
In view of the foregoing, the speedy passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Imee R. Marcos". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

IMEE R. MARCOS

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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SENATE
S.B. No. 2095



Introduced by **SEN. IMEE R. MARCOS**

AN ACT CONVERTING THE JUNCTION LABBEN-MAPURAO-FLORA, APAYAO ROAD INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 SECTION 1. *Conversion of Baranagay/Municipal/ Provincial Road.* – The Junction
2 Labben-Mapurao-Flora, Apayao Road with a distance of fourteen (14) kilometers is
3 hereby converted into a national road under the jurisdiction and supervision of the
4 Department of Public works and Highways (DPWH.)

5 SEC. 2. *Implementation.* – The amount necessary for the improvement of the
6 said road shall be charged to the appropriations of the Department of Public Works
7 and Highways under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such sum as
8 may be necessary for its repair and maintenance shall be included in the annual
9 General Appropriations Act.

10 SEC. 3. *Effectivity.* – This act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
11 in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,