THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session

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## SENATE

S. No. 2298

## INTRODUCED BY SEN. MANNY VILLAR

# **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Peace and order cannot be won without our nation's veterans and military personnel. It is important for every Filipino to remember the noble service and unspeakable sacrifice of those who have worn this nation's uniform as well as the unsung heroes who performed such exemplary service for the betterment of this nation and the lives of our country men.

In view of this, the attached bill aims to give due recognition and honor to the myriad sacrifices by our veterans, military personnel and our fellow citizens who rendered distinguished services to our nation. This is achieved by establishing at least one (1) National Cemetery in each Region and major island to serve as a memorial and final resting place to our modern day heroes.

Accordingly, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

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# AN ACT ESTABLISHING NATIONAL CEMETERIES AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR ADMINSTRATION AND MAINTENANCE

Be<sup>17</sup> enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in congress assembled:

SECTION 1. There shall be established at least one (1) National Cemetery in each Region and major island to serve as a memorial and final resting place for veterans, military personnel and citizens who have rendered distinguished services to the nation.

SECTION 2. The President of the Philippines shall establish each National Cemetery by individual Presidential Proclamation which shall set aside a portion of government land for the purpose.

SECTION 3. Military veterans and military personnel who die in the line of duty, persons who have rendered distinguished service to the nation, and such other persons as may be determined by the President of the Philippines shall be entitled to burial in the national cemetery. SECTION 4. The administration, maintenance, and security of the national cemeteries shall be under the jurisdiction of the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office (PVAO). Funds for the purpose shall be included in the annual appropriations of the PVAO.

SECTION 5. All laws, orders, or decrees in contravention herewith are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved.