National development requires the diligent maintenance of roads and the proper planning of road networks. Roads pave the way for efficient and successful commercial transactions and help in the advancement of economy and the creation of more jobs and sources of livelihood. It is, thus, important that the country's roads be maintained, improved and repaired to ensure their maximum utilization.

Fourth Avenue Street is a two-lane city road located in the second district of Caloocan City, Metro Manila covering a distance of 876 linear meters. Although this road is relatively narrow, it is performing a vital role in the bustling trade of the neighboring Navotas Fish Port and the Manila Pier. It must be noted that a portion of the primary arterial national thoroughfare called C3 Road, spanning from Rizal Avenue Extension to A. Mabini Avenue also in Caloocan City, Metro Manila, is only accessible to west-bound vehicles. This is because the construction of the east-bound portion of C3 road is still unfinished as of this date due to a long-standing dispute that has been pending before the courts for decades. There being a need for a diversion road for east-bound vehicles coming from Rizal Extension Avenue to A. Mabini Avenue, Fourth Avenue street was tapped to serve this purpose.

Considering that Fourth Avenue street serves as an indispensable link to a primary arterial national road, it is only imperative that the maintenance, improvement and repair thereof should be undertaken by the Department of Public Works and Highways which is better equipped, both financially and technically, than the local government of Caloocan. This could only be done, however, if Fourth Avenue Street will be classified as a national road.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.
Republic of the Philippines  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City  

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session  

HOUSE BILL NO. 3132  

---  

Introduced by Representative EDGAR R. ERICE  

---  

AN ACT  
CONVERTING FOURTH AVENUE IN CALOOCAN CITY INTO A NATIONAL ROAD, DECLARING IT TO BE UNDER THE PRIMARY JURISDICTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR  

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

SECTION 1. Fourth Avenue in the Second District of Caloocan City is hereby converted into a national road and, declaring it to be henceforth under the primary jurisdiction of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH).  

SECTION 2. The Secretary of Public Works and Highways shall henceforth incorporate in the Department’s regular programs and schedules the maintenance, improvement and repair of the said road, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.  

SECTION 3. The Local Government Unit of Caloocan shall provide the DPWH with coordinative and administrative support in order to ensure the efficient maintenance of the said road.  

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a national newspaper of general circulation.  

Approved,