

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 4380

Introduced by **Rep. LAWRENCE LEMUEL H. FORTUN**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to convert Jct. BCIR-Libertad-Ambago Road-Jct. Butuan City-Masao Port Road in Butuan City, all local roads, into a National Secondary Road.

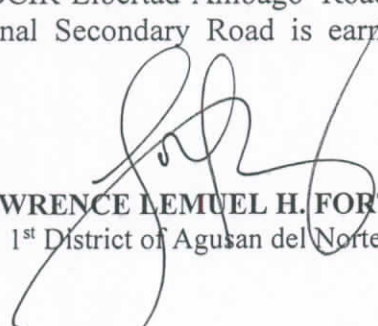
Butuan City was the capital of the Province of Agusan until the latter was divided into two Agusan provinces, namely Agusan del Norte and Agusan del Sur, in 1967. Since then, Butuan served as the capital of Agusan del Norte until it was declared a Highly Urbanized City and became separate and independent of the province in 1985.

In 1995, by virtue of Republic Act No. 7901, the CARAGA Region was created with Butuan City as the regional center thereof. The city became Caraga's center of governance, trade, education, communication and transportation, aside from being the gateway to the whole region. As a result thereof, there has been, over the years, a remarkable increase in the influx of people to the city owing to the consequent surge in social, political and economic activities therein.

In the light of these developments, more particularly in the areas of trade, commerce and tourism, it has become imperative for the city to establish viable road networks and ensure efficient maintenance thereof. One of these crucial roads is Jct. BCIR-Libertad-Ambago Road-Jct. Butuan City-Masao Port Road which connects strategic production areas to the city's key market centers and the adjoining province of Agusan del Norte.

The road is a major contribution to economic development in the city, the province and the region. Because of the critical role it plays in the continuous growth of trade and commerce in Butuan City and Agusan del Norte, ensuring its quality and reliability has been an urgent and vital concern for the local government units concerned. The LGUs, however, are unable to meet the financial demands of maintaining the integrity of this road of more than two (2) kilometers in length. By converting this whole stretch consisting of different city roads into a National Secondary Road, the national government is able to regularly provide for its regular maintenance and upkeep, thus preventing the deterioration of its condition and the unwelcome impact thereof on the economic activities in the affected areas.

For the foregoing reasons, the conversion of Jct. BCIR-Libertad-Ambago Road-Jct. Butuan City-Masao Port Road in Butuan City into a National Secondary Road is earnestly sought.


LAWRENCE LEMUEL H. FORTUN
1st District of Agusan del Norte

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE CONVERSION OF THE JCT. BCIR-LIBERTAD-AMBAGO
ROAD-JCT. BUTUAN CITY-MASAO PORT ROAD IN BUTUAN CITY INTO A
NATIONAL SECONDARY ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. The Jct. BCIR-Libertad-Ambago Road-Jct. Butuan City-Masao Port Road in Butuan City is hereby converted from City Road into National Secondary Road under the supervision of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH).

SECTION 2. The Secretary of the DPWH shall include in the DPWH program the improvement, maintenance and repair of said road, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from the publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,