Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3123

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES RECEIVED DATE: 18 AUG 2016 REGISTRATION UNIT BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE

Introduced by Representative MARLYN L. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS

AN ACT

CONVERTING THE URDANETA -ASINGAN VIA CALEPAAN ROAD CONNECTING THE CITY OF URDANETA AND THE MUNICIPALITY OF ASINGAN, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN, INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill has been previously filed in the 16th Congress. Believing in the merit of the proposal, the author deems it proper to refile the bill in the 17th Congress. It aims to convert the Urdaneta - Asingan via Calepaan Road into a national road.

The improvement and upkeep of infrastructure is critical in promoting economic growth. Provinces like Pangasinan, which is heavily dependent on agriculture is reliant on roads for the free flow of its produce from farm to the market. The regular maintenance and improvement of these roads will help in ensuring an open and easy access for transportation of goods between municipalities and its nearby provinces.

The Municipality of Asingan, which relies mainly on its agricultural products to sustain its growth, is dependent on the connecting roads such as the the Urdaneta -Asingan via Calepaan Road which connects City of Urdaneta and the Municipality of Asingan. This thoroughfare is vital for the free movement of people and goods in the area.

Given the limited budgetary allocation of the Province, allocating a significant amount for the maintaining the conditions of provincial roads may deplete the financial cupboard of the province, which amount may be used instead in funding other projects that will support its social service programs.

Considering the foregoing, immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

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

- SECTION 1. The Urdaneta Asingan via Calepaan, connecting the City of Urdaneta and the Municipality of Asingan, is hereby converted into a national road.
- SEC. 2. The Secretary of Public Works and Highways shall include in the Department's program the improvement, repair and maintenance of the road, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.
- **SEC. 3.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,