

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
H.B. No. 3287

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	
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Introduced by Representative Herminio Harry L. Roque Jr.

**AN ACT
RENAMING THE "LIBINGAN NG MGA BAYANI" TO "LIBINGAN NG MGA
BAYANI AT MGA DATING PANGULO"**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 208 provides for the construction of a national pantheon for presidents of the Philippines, national heroes and patriots of the country to perpetuate their memory for the inspiration and emulation of Filipinos;

This national pantheon was renamed as "Libingan ng Mga Bayani" by former President Ramon Magsaysay in Proclamation No. 86 because the name "Republic Memorial Cemetery" did not properly symbolize the valor of those buried in the cemetery;

Indeed, former President Magsaysay believed the former name "does not truly express the nation's esteem and reverence for her war dead."

It appears that the Duterte Administration, barring a Supreme Court permanent injunction, is intent on interring the remains of former President Ferdinand E. Marcos in the Libingan ng Mga Bayani.

This planned burial is causing massive unrest among Filipinos who question the heroism of former President Marcos, given the human rights record of the Martial Law years.

From both a legal and moral standpoint, many Filipinos, especially victims of the evils of Martial law, question the propriety of burying President Marcos in the LNMB.

The State, in the spirit of democratic deliberation, may address the simmering controversy through the People's representatives in Congress, through a legislative act that

honors the memories of those who suffered under Martial Law as well as affords a former President of the Republic a final resting place for his remains.

By renaming the “Libingan ng Mga Bayani” to “Libingan ng Mga Bayani at Mga Dating Pangulo,” we can defer from judging whether a former President was or was not a “hero.” Let the people’s memory be the judge – not the whims of a certain administration.



HERMINIO HARRY L. ROQUE JR.

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AN ACT
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MGA BAYANI AT MGA DATING PANGULO”

SECTION 1. The National Pantheon established by Republic Act No. 208 currently named “Libingan ng mga Bayani” is hereby officially renamed as the “Libingan ng mga Bayani at mga Dating Pangulo.”

SECTION 2. If any provision is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 3. Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,