

Republic of the Philippines  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Eighteenth (18<sup>th</sup>) Congress  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **5295**



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**Introduced by Representative Rudy S. Caoagdan**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> District, North Cotabato**

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### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to convert the Poblacion-Magpet-Kinarum-Kirongdong Municipal Road in Magpet, Cotabato into a national road.

The Municipality of Magpet is located in the eastern part of the Province of Cotabato. It covers an area of approximately 75,536 hectares of vast agricultural and forest lands. The primary source of income of this municipality is derived from agriculture and the major agricultural products are rubber, banana (both lacatan and cardava), coconut, coffee and fruits. Magpet is the topmost producer of banana in the whole Province of Cotabato. Tourism industry is likewise a potential source of income for the municipality since many tourist attractions are located in the area which include waterfalls, rainforests, tribal village and a Bali inspired resort facing the majestic Mt. Apo.

Magpet has a total road length of 310.91 kilometers composed of 38.30 kilometers national road, 25.30 kilometers provincial road, 8.073 kilometers municipal road and 239.237 barangay road. These roads are categorized into: concrete (84.37 km), asphalt (1.05 km), gravel (116.17 km), and earth or unpaved (109.30 km).

The Poblacion-Magpet-Kinarum-Kirongdong Municipal Road, with an estimated length of 18.30 kilometers, serves as a thoroughfare that links to other barangays in the municipality. It also leads to the Kirongdong waterfalls and rainforests in Kinarum, where the tallest waterfall in Cotabato is located.

At present, this road requires an upgrade, improvement and upkeep. But, the Municipality of Magpet may not afford the needed improvement because it entails the acquisition of a road right of way. The potential of the municipality for agricultural and tourism development will be put into naught if the road will not

be improved and maintained. The conversion of the road into a national road guarantees that there would be available funds from the national government for its repair, improvement and maintenance. This will help the Municipality of Magpet in its economic endeavours especially in boosting its tourism and uplifting the lives of the people in the area.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
RUDY S. CAOAGDAN

