

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 4219



INTRODUCED BY Hon. Mauyag "Jun" Papandayan, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish the Bayang Historical Park and Convention Center in the Municipality of Bayang, second district of Lanao del Sur.

More than a hundred years ago, Lanao del Sur became part of world history. It was in May 2, 1902, that the first and "fiercest battle" in the Philippines was fought in the town of Bayang, on the southeastern side of Lake Lanao. Today, that event is celebrated throughout Lanao, and a marker has been set in place in the town of Bayang, Lanao del Sur, to immortalize the Battle of Bayang, which had claimed the lives of at least 300 brave Maranao warriors in defense of their territory from the hands of the invading US military forces.

Resistance against foreign invasion is the hallmark of the Muslim-Filipino. And this nationalism should be immortalized so that our generations to come may have the same ardent love for our country. However, the Battle of Bayang was a decisive encounter because the defeat of the Maranaos paved the way for more military expeditions, which in turn broke the insularity of the Lake Lanao region, which, for centuries, had remained relatively untouched by outsiders.

Thus, it opened the Lanao region to free trade and its absorption into the economic and political systems of an emerging Philippine state. The deadly encounter between the kris and the krag (American guns) would soon come to an end.

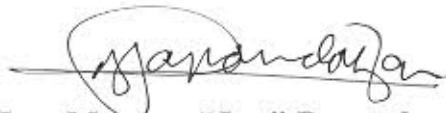
The overriding significance of the Bayang Battle is that it symbolized the triumph of globalism as well as the integration of the Bangsamoro homeland into the world system that gave life to modern states. In particular, it meant the perfection of the three stars of the Philippine Republic and the union of two communities, the Filipinos and the Muslims, under the same flag. (From the writings of Professor of Sociology and the Director of Research, Mamitua Saber Research Center, Mindanao State University, Marawi City.)

This is an instance of tragedy becoming a victory, in the sense that the heroism and laying down of Muslim lives in Bayang gave birth to the future unity with their Filipino brothers, and the integration of Moroland into the fabric of Filipino society, although the heritage and traditions of the Muslim are as intact as ever.

This proposed measure seeks to establish an eco-friendly Historical Park and Convention Center which shall serve as state-of-the-art facility for hosting meetings, conferences, seminars and other related events. It shall be administered by the Provincial Government of Lanao del Sur in coordination with the DENR and the DOT.

For all the world to see, that unity in diversity can and will succeed as long as the people are willing, the establishment of the Bayang Historical Park and Convention Center should be prioritized.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mauryag', written over a horizontal line.

Hon. Mauryag "Jun" Papandayan, Jr.



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

Seventeenth Congress
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HOUSE BILL NO. 4219

Introduced by Honorable Mauyag “Jun” Papandayan, Jr.

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE BAYANG HISTORICAL PARK AND
CONVENTION CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BAYANG, LANA
DEL SUR, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

Section 1. BAYANG HISTORICAL PARK AND CONVENTION CENTER.

The Bayang Historical Park and Convention Center is hereby established in the Municipality of Bayang, Province of Lanao del Sur, under the administration of the Municipal Government of Bayang, Lanao del Sur, in coordination with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, (DENR), the Department of Tourism (DOT) and the Provincial Government of Lanao del Sur.

SEC. 2. Management Committee. - There shall be a Management Committee which shall be composed of the following:

- a) Mayor of Bayang, as chairperson
- b) Representative from ARMM
- c) Representative from the Sangguniang Panlalawigan
- d) Representative from the Provincial Government
- e) Representative from the DENR;
- f) Representative from DOT; and
- g) Two (2) representatives from non-governmental and people's organizations, as members.

The aforementioned private sector representatives shall serve for a period of two (2) years.

SEC. 3. Powers and Functions. The Management Committee shall exercise the following powers and functions:

- a) Prepare and execute programs of management, conservation and sustainable development for the Bayang Historical Park and Convention Center;
- b) Determine and mark out the specific places necessary for special improvements;
- c) Enter into joint venture and lease agreements with public or private entities;
- d) Receive, administer and dispose of trust, legacies, gifts and donations;
- e) Appoint, promote, transfer and remove its personnel subject to civil service laws, rules and regulations;
- f) Monitor and evaluate the activities of the staff complement in accordance with the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees;
- g) Promulgate all necessary rules and regulations; and
- h) Exercise such other powers and functions as are necessary for the implementation of this Act;

SEC. 4. Meetings. - The Management Committee shall regularly convene at least once a month. The Chairperson may, however, call a special meeting whenever necessary upon a three-day prior notice. A majority of its members shall constitute a quorum. The chairperson shall always be present during meetings.

The chairperson and the members shall be entitled to reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their functions.

SEC. 5. Transitory Provision. - All properties, assets, funds, and liabilities of the Bayang Historical Park and Convention Center, administered by the Protective Areas and Wildlife Bureau of the DENR and co-managed by the Provincial Environment, Natural Resources and Waste Management Office of the Provincial Government of Lanao del Sur, are hereby transferred to the Bayang Historical Park and Convention Center.

SEC. 6. Support and Technical Assistance. - The DENR and the DOT shall provide and include in their plans the promotional support and technical assistance for the operation of the Bayang Historical Park and Convention Center.

SEC. 7. Appropriations. - The amount needed for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations for DENR. Thereafter, such amount as may be necessary for the continued operation and maintenance of the Bayang Historical Park and Convention Center shall be included in the annual budget of the Provincial Government of Lanao del Sur.

SEC. 8. Revenues. - The revenues generated from the Operation of the Bayang Historical Park and Convention Center shall accrue to the treasury of the Provincial Government of Lanao del Sur. Disbursements shall be used solely for management purposes based on management plans approved by the Management Committee.

SEC. 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Provincial Government of Lanao del Sur shall, in coordination with the DENR, the DOT and the Provincial Government of Lanao del Sur, formulate and issue the rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of this Act.

SEC. 10. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 11. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,