



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
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30 April 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO : **The Directors**
Land Management Bureau
Environmental Management Bureau
Biodiversity Management Bureau
Legal Affairs Service
Policy and Planning Service

The Regional Executive Director
DENR Region VII

FROM : **The Assistant Secretary**
Field Operations-Mindanao and Legislative Affairs

SUBJECT : **INVITATION FROM THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC
EDUCATION, ARTS AND CULTURE**

This pertains to the letter dated 30 April 2021, from Senator Win Gatchalian, Chairperson, Senate Committee on Basic Education, Arts and Culture inviting DENR to participate as a resource person in a **Public Hearing on May 4, 2021, Tuesday, 9:00 a.m. via Zoom (videoconference/teleconference), to discuss:**

HOUSE BILL NO. 5644 – CARCAR CITY CULTURAL HERITAGE ZONE ACT

An Act Declaring the City of Carcar In the Province of Cebu A Cultural Heritage Zone (by Representatives Gullas, Romulo, Olivarez, Fortuno, Escudero, De Venecia, Bascug, Cari, Espina, Abunda, Panotes, Guico, Tutor, Barba, Castelo, Andaya, Saulog, Bordado, Rodriguez, Fortun, Mangaoang, Radaza, Garcia (V.) and Benitez) taking into consideration

SENATE BILL NO. 2115 – CARCAR CITY CULTURAL HERITAGE ZONE ACT

An Act Declaring the City of Carcar In the Province of Cebu A Cultural Heritage Zone (by Senator Imee R. Marcos)

The Committee requests for a position paper on the above-cited legislative measures to be submitted on or before **May 3, 2021, Monday.**

Kindly inform this office of your attendance before the scheduled date of the meeting and submit presentation, comments and/or position papers or proposed provision with respect to the bill and your recommendation in hard and soft copy at the Legislative Liaison Office at telephone number 8920-1761 and email denrlegislative@yahoo.com for consolidation. Also,

you can confirm your participation and position paper prior to the meeting to the Committee Secretariat through their email mobile no. 0917-829-2875, or at email address: committeonbasiceducation@gmail.com


JOAN A. LAGUNDA, D.M., D.P.A



INVITATION: May 4, 2021 Senate Public Hearing on HBN 5644 and SBN 2115 (Carcar City Cultural Heritage Zone Act)

From: Hazel Villarba (committeeonbasiceducation@gmail.com)
To: hea@denr.gov.ph; r added@denr.gov.ph; osec@denr.gov.ph; artcastro081867@gmail.com; normsmolinyawe@yahoo.com; denrlegislative@yahoo.com
Cc: katryncadiente@yahoo.com; caalcuran@gmail.com; btremalla@gmail.com
Date: Friday, April 30, 2021, 11:19 AM GMT+8

Dear Secretary Cimatu:


Please be informed that the Senate Committee on Basic Education, Arts and Culture will conduct a Public Hearing on **May 4, 2021, Tuesday, 9:00 a.m. via Zoom (videoconference/teleconference)**, to discuss House Bill No. 5644 and Senate Bill No. 2115 - Carcar City Cultural Heritage Zone Act.


Attached is an invitation for your perusal.


Kindly acknowledge receipt of this email.

Thank you very much.

Respectfully,
HAZEL ROSS P. VILLARBA
Committee Secretary
Committee on Basic Education, Arts and Culture
Senate of the Philippines
GSIS Bldg., Financial Center,
Diokno Blvd., 1307 Pasay City
Contact Nos: +632 8552.6750 / 8552.6888
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Monday-Thursday

 Invite for DENR.pdf
120.7kB

 HBN 5644.pdf
657.3kB

 SBN 2115.pdf
185kB



Republic of the Philippines

Senate

PASAY CITY

COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION, ARTS AND CULTURE

April 30, 2021

SECRETARY ROY A. CIMATU

Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)
Diliman, Quezon City

Dear **Secretary Cimat**:

The Committee on Basic Education, Arts and Culture would like to invite you or your authorized representative to participate as a resource person in the **public hearing on May 4, 2021, Tuesday, 9:00 a.m. via Cisco Webex (videoconference/teleconference)**, to discuss:

HOUSE BILL NO. 5644 – CARCAR CITY CULTURAL HERITAGE ZONE ACT

An Act Declaring The City Of Carcar In The Province Of Cebu A Cultural Heritage Zone (by Representatives Gullas, Romulo, Olivarez, Fortuno, Escudero, De Venecia, Bascug, Cari, Espina, Abunda, Panotes, Guico, Tutor, Barba, Castelo, Andaya, Saulog, Bordado, Rodriguez, Fortun, Mangaoang, Radaza, Garcia (V.) and Benitez)

taking into consideration **SENATE BILL NO. 2115 – CARCAR CITY CULTURAL HERITAGE ZONE ACT**

An Act Declaring The City Of Carcar In The Province Of Cebu A Cultural Heritage Zone (by Senator Imee R. Marcos)

The Committee requests for a position paper on the above-cited legislative measures to be submitted on or before May 3, 2021, Monday.

For confirmation of attendance, please provide the Committee with an email address, preferably a Gmail account, where we can send the official invitation link (Cisco Webex) to the meeting site and a mobile number for easier communication.


The copies of the bills are enclosed in this letter for your easy reference.

Should you have a presentation, for logistical purposes, it would be extremely helpful if you would be able to supply us with your presentation slides in advance. This will allow us to pre-load our computer in the virtual session room with your presentation and check if there are any issues that may interfere with your talk. We thus respectfully request that you provide your PowerPoint (.ppt) slides to us thru the email provided below at least a day prior to the scheduled hearing.

Should you have any queries and other concerns, please contact the undersigned at mobile no. 0917-829-2875, or at email address: committeeonbasiceducation@gmail.com.

Your presence/active participation will be highly appreciated. Thank you very much.

**For the Chairperson:
SEN. WIN GATCHALIAN**


HAZEL ROSS P. VILLARBA
Committee Secretary

Invitation/Public Hearing on 4 May 2021 at 9AM via Zoom Re Carcar City Cultural Heritage Zone Act

From: legis lative (denrlegislative@yahoo.com)

To: denrlmb@yahoo.com; pimentelxandra26@gmail.com; od@emb.gov.ph; fatima_millan@emb.gov.ph; recordsco@emb.gov.ph; director@bmb.gov.ph; adirector@bmb.gov.ph; t_tenazas@yahoo.com; las.denr@gmail.com; odpps@yahoo.com; odpps@denr.gov.ph; r7@denr.gov.ph; redder7@yahoo.com

Date: Friday, April 30, 2021, 04:03 PM GMT+8

Dear Sir/Mam,

Good Day!

Please find the attached letter invitation from the Committee on Basic Education, Arts and Culture for your perusal. Kindly acknowledge receipt of this email. Thank you.

Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Legislative Liaison Office

Visayas Avenue, Diliman, 1100 Quezon City, Philippines
denr.gov.ph
Tel: 9201761



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Memo Invite-BasicED-Carcar-mAY-04.docx
87.1kB

CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 5644

BY REPRESENTATIVES GULLAS, ROMULO, OLIVAREZ, FORTUNO,
ESCUDERO, DE VENECIA, BASCUG, CARI, ESPINA, ABUNDA,
PANOTES, GUICO, TUTOR, BARBA, CASTELO, ANDAYA, SAULOG,
BORDADO, RODRIGUEZ, FORTUN, MANGAOANG, RADAZA,
GARCIA (V.) AND BENITEZ, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO.98

**AN ACT DECLARING THE CITY OF CARCAR IN THE PROVINCE OF
CEBU A CULTURAL HERITAGE ZONE**

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

1 SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Carcar City
2 Cultural Heritage Zone Act".

3 SEC. 2. The Constitution mandates the State to conserve,
4 develop, promote, and popularize the nation's historical and cultural
5 heritage and resources, as well as its artistic creations. It further
6 provides that all the country's artistic and historic wealth constitute
7 the cultural treasure of the nation and shall be protected by the
8 State, which may regulate its disposition.

9 Towards this end, the promotion and preservation of the
10 cultural and historical landmarks that highlight the uniqueness and
11 beauty of Carcar City, including all century-old architecturally
12 significant and historic houses thereat, shall be pursued in the
13 development and management of its tourism industry, cultural
14 heritage and resources.

1 SEC. 3. The City of Carcar in the Province of Cebu is hereby
2 declared a cultural heritage zone. As such, it shall be accorded
3 priority development by the Department of Tourism (DOT), in
4 coordination with the City Government of Carcar and other
5 concerned agencies of the government, and shall be subject to the
6 rules and regulations governing the conservation and preservation
7 of cultural heritage zones.

8 As used in this Act, cultural heritage zone refers to historical,
9 anthropological, archaeological, artistic geographical areas and
10 settings that are culturally significant to the country.

11 SEC. 4. The DOT, in coordination with the National
12 Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), Tourism
13 Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA), National
14 Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP), National
15 Museum of the Philippines (NMP), Provincial Government of Cebu,
16 and the City Government of Carcar, shall immediately prepare the
17 development plan involving the preservation, conservation,
18 restoration, and maintenance of cultural and historical sites and
19 structures for the enhancement of tourism in Carcar City: *Provided,*
20 That the NCCA shall approve only those methods and materials
21 that strictly adhere to the accepted international standards of
22 conservation in undertaking conservation and restoration works, as
23 provided for in Section 15 of Republic Act No. 10066, otherwise
24 known as the "National Cultural Heritage Act of 2009."

25 SEC. 5. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act,
26 the DOT, in coordination with the NCCA, TIEZA, NHCP, NMP,
27 Provincial Government of Cebu, and the City Government of
28 Carcar, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the
29 effective implementation of this Act.

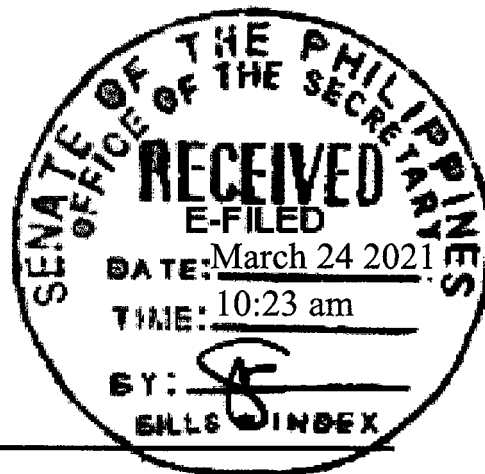
1 SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
2 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general
3 circulation.

 Approved,

0

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

SENATE
S.B. No. 2115



Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

**AN ACT DECLARING THE CITY OF CARCAR IN THE
PROVINCE OF CEBU A CULTURAL HERITAGE ZONE**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 15 of Article XIV of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that "*Arts and letters shall enjoy the patronage of the State. The State shall conserve, promote, and popularize the nation's historical and cultural heritage and resources, as well as artistic creations.*"

Section 16 of the same article further provides that "*All the country's artistic and historic wealth constitutes the cultural treasure of the nation and shall be under the protection of the State which may regulate its disposition.*"

According to a news item by The Manila Times, there are several heritage places in the Philippines like Taal in Batangas and Silay in Negros Occidental, but not one is as colorful and as ostentatious as Carcar in Cebu. The City of Carcar was created by virtue of Republic Act No. 9436, "An Act Converting the Municipality of Carcar in the Province of Cebu into a Component City to be known as the City of Carcar" effective April 12, 2007 and was classified as a 4th class City.

While it became a city only in 2007, the culture of Carcar dates back even before the Spaniards came at the end of 16th century. Carcar, then, was a seaside settlement known as Sialo. Sialo became a town only in 1599 changing its name to Valladolid. The growth of the community put the town in a position as a prime target for Moro marauders. This pushed the natives to move it to a higher ground, which is now its present location. The town then became known as Kabkab after the local fern called *kabkaban* which grew abundantly in the area. A priest later changed the name to Carcar, after a town in Navarro, Northern Spain.

The rich cultural heritage of Carcar is one of its driving force to enrich its tourism potential. Soon Carcar became known as the Heritage City of Cebu because of the beautiful structures inspired by the architectural designs of the Spanish era and American period. Among the structures comprising the city's rich cultural heritage is

the Church of Saint Catherine of Alexandria, the Carcar Puericulture Center and Dispensary built from 1929 to 1937, the old Upland Elementary School built in 1905, and the Carcar Rotonda. There are also heritage houses in the city including the house of Mayor Mariano Mercado built in 1906, the Yap House built in 1905 and the Silva House built in 1883 to 1898. The oldest structure known in Carcar is the house of Florencio Noel which is famously called as the *Balay na Tisa*. Built in 1859, Balay na Tisa was declared a Heritage House by the National Historical Institute on 4 September 2009.

These structures built by our ancestors and the history embedded in them are proofs not just of memories but of an irrefutable connection to the past. Protecting our cultural heritage vis-à-vis means protecting our sense of who we are because our culture shows our beliefs, customs, traditions, and even our social values. It gives us our identity which makes us unique from the rest of the world but at the same time reminds every Filipinos of our bond and unity. Hence, it is but felicitous to protect and shield our valuable heritage to enrich the culture of the future generations.

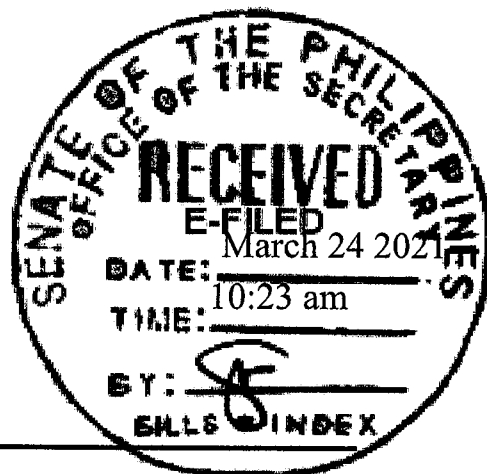
This bill therefore seeks to preserve the vintage houses, church, school, and other structures in the City of Carcar in the 1st district of Cebu by declaring the City of Carcar in the Province of Cebu as a cultural heritage zone.

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


IMEE R. MARCOS

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

SENATE
S.B. No. 2115



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**AN ACT DECLARING THE CITY OF CARCAR IN THE
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Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

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2 Act".

3 **SEC. 2.** The Constitution mandates the State to conserve, develop, promote, and
4 popularize the nation's historical and cultural heritage and resources, as well as its
5 artistic creations. It further provides that all the country's artistic and histone wealth
6 constitute the cultural treasure of the nation and shall be protected by the State, which
7 may regulate its disposition.

8 Towards this end, the promotion and preservation of the cultural and historical
9 landmarks that highlight the uniqueness and beauty of Carcar City, including all
10 century-old architecturally significant and historic houses thereat, shall be pursued in
11 the development and management of its tourism industry, cultural heritage and
12 resources.

13 **SEC. 3.** The City of Carcar in the Province of Cebu is hereby declared a cultural
14 heritage zone. As such, it shall be accorded priority development by the Department
15 of Tourism (DOT), in coordination with the City Government of Carcar and other
16 concerned agencies of the government, and shall be subject to the rules and
17 regulations governing the conservation and preservation of cultural heritage zones.

18 As used in this Act, cultural heritage zone refers to historical, anthropological,
19 archaeological, artistic geographical areas and settings that are culturally significant
20 to the country.

21 **SEC. 4.** The DOT, in coordination with the National Commission for Culture and
22 the Arts (NCCA), Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA),
23 National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP), National Museum of the
24 Philippines (NMP), Provincial Government of Cebu, and the City Government of Carcar,
25 shall immediately prepare the development plan involving the preservation,

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2 structures for the enhancement of tourism in Carcar City: *Provided*, That the NCCA
3 shall approve only those methods and materials that strictly adhere to the accepted
4 international standards of conservation in undertaking conservation and restoration
5 works, as provided for in Section 15 of Republic Act No. 10066, otherwise known as
6 the "National Cultural Heritage Act of 2009."

7 **SEC. 5.** Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOT, in
8 coordination with the NCCA, TIEZA, NHCP, NMP, Provincial Government of Cebu, and
9 the City Government of Carcar, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations
10 for the effective implementation of this Act.

11 **SEC. 6.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
12 *Official Gazette* or in any newspaper of general circulations.

Approved,