

Republic of the Philippines
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
BANGSAMORO TRANSITION AUTHORITY
Cotabato City

Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
Parliament
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Name: AMILBAHAR S. MAWALLIL Signature: [Signature]
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SECOND PARLIAMENT
First Regular Session

Parliament Bill No. 84

Bangsamoro
OFFICE OF MP AMIR S. MAWALLIL
RELEASE

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Introduced by
MP AMILBAHAR S. MAWALLIL
Co-authored by
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ATTY. RASOL Y. MITMUG, JR., ATTY. SUHARTO M. AMBOLODITO, RASUL E.
ISMAEL, ENGR. DON MUSTAPHA A. LOONG**

AN ACT
MEMORIALIZING THE VALOR EXEMPLIFIED BY THE MORO NATIONAL
LIBERATION FRONT (MNLF) TOP 90 AND TOP 300 CORE MEMBERS,
AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

"We, the five million oppressed Bangsamoro people, wishing to free ourselves from the terror, oppression, and tyranny of Filipino colonialism which has caused us untold sufferings and miseries by criminality usurping our land, by threatening Islam through wholesale destruction and desecration of its places of worship and its Holy Book, and murdering our innocent brothers, sisters and folks in a genocidal campaign of terrifying magnitude... [hereby declare] the establishment of the Bangsamoro Republic."

In 1974, the decades-long struggle of the Bangsamoro people, as reflected in part by the above-quoted statement, was formally expressed to the Republic through a Manifesto signed by several young Bangsamoro revolutionaries whose names are etched in the halls of our history, and who are, up to this day, deliberated by historians, studied by the academe and chronicled in small circles across the region.

The ideals of these young men who initiated and fought for the moral, ethical, spiritual, and political transformation of the Bangsamoro region, and the change of the socio-economic and political order of our homeland were valued by many as the movement which led the fight for self-determination, autonomy and our fundamental right to the Bangsamoro ancestral homeland.

These young men were known as the *Top 90* and *Top 300* core members of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF). The *Top 90* were MNLF fighters who had their training on guerrilla warfare in Pulau, Pangkor, Malaysia in 1969. It was in late 1972, after the declaration of Martial Law when the MNLF became a national liberation movement.

The *Top 90* were composed of the different ethnolinguistic groups of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region who questioned the socio-political landscape in Mindanao and aimed to fight the social injustices towards the Bangsamoro people. In 1972, from the *Top 90* core members of the MNLF, they expanded and recruited 300 young Muslims to join their group.

It is strange, however, that until today one cannot find a fitting monument in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region that would serve as a lasting memorial to these courageous men who fought to assert our rights and affirm our distinct historical identity and birthright from those who attempted to subdue it.

A memorial similar to the Iwo Jima monument or the Vietnam Memorial in Washington D.C., the Arch de Triomphe in Paris, or even in Bucharest, and the military statutes in London. We need a memorial that would be visited and revered by all, especially by the present and future generations.

Given the enormous commitment which *the Top 90* and *Top 300* core members have demonstrated repeatedly, it is appropriate to memorialize their valor and heroism. This bill seeks to provide an opportunity for all to honor and recognize the important contribution these people made to preserving our safety and well-being.

At present, elementary, secondary and college history books provide very limited information, if at all, about the adversities faced by these men and the courage they displayed. The *Top 90* and *300* Core Members, the unsung champions of the Bangsamoro struggle, should be given proper recognition for the bravery they have manifested in continuously fighting for our rights.

Every Bangsamoro needs to be educated on the lives and heroism of these brave men to better understand the fundamental principles which they fought for: freedom, justice, and autonomy. Everyone should support the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in our campaign for justice and dignity. Not only did they accomplish their mission, but they also made the Bangsamoro people proud and serve as an inspiration to future Bangsamoro leaders.

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



AMILBAHAR S. MAWALLIL
Member of the Parliament

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Section 1. Declaration of Policy and Principles. – The Bangsamoro Government hereby declares as a policy to preserve the history of the Bangsamoro people in recognition of the justness and legitimacy of the cause of the Bangsamoro people and the aspirations of Muslim Filipinos in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

To this end, the Bangsamoro Government shall reflect the optimistic view of the Bangsamoro people for peace in the region by memorializing the bravery exemplified by the Top 90 and Top 300 core members of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) which initiated the fight for self-determination and autonomy.

For this purpose, this heritage-making process shall highlight the tenor of remembrance of the Bangsamoro struggle as being fiercely restive towards the establishment of a climate of enduring peace within the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region founded on the principles of justice, human rights, liberty, and democracy.

Section 2. Official List of MNLF Top 90 and Top 300 Core Members. – Pursuant to this Act, the Bangsamoro Commission for the Preservation of the Cultural Heritage (BCPCH), as the prime government agency responsible to write the history of the Bangsamoro people and establish and sustain cultural institutions, programs, and projects in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region, shall produce and publish the official names of the Moro National

Liberation Front *Top 90* and *Top 300* Core Members, in consultation with the MNLF and other relevant government agencies.

The BCPCH shall deposit a copy of this official list and other relevant documents with the Bangsamoro Parliament Secretary-General. It shall likewise cause the distribution of said official list to all BARMM ministries, subdivisions, agencies, and instrumentalities, as well as to all schools, colleges, universities, both public and private, situated within the BARMM, as reference material for teaching history and other related disciplines.

All ministries, subdivisions, agencies, and instrumentalities of the Bangsamoro Government are hereby directed to refer and employ the Official List of *Top 90* and *Top 300* Core Members in all communications, messages, and public documents, and to make known such official list with the general public.

Section 3. *Construction of the Top 90 and Top 300 Memorial.* – The Bangsamoro Commission for the Preservation of the Cultural Heritage (BCPCH) shall erect a regional monument to serve as a memorial for the ideals and the bravery shown by the *Top 90* and *Top 300* core members who fought for the Bangsamoro struggle. The names of all core members shall be inscribed in the monument.

Section 4. *Design, Location, and Construction of the Monument.* – The BCPCH shall:

- a. Determine the appropriate location where the monument shall be erected;
- b. Prepare the design of the monument; and
- c. Undertake the construction of the monument, in coordination with the Ministry of Public Works and other relevant agencies of the government.

Section 5. *Regional Day of Remembrance.* – The BCPCH shall determine the appropriate date for the yearly commemoration of the heroism of all core members. In addition, it shall conduct a program at the erected monument every year during the regional day of remembrance to commemorate their valor and ideals.

Section 6. *Commemoration in Educational Institutions.* – The regional day of remembrance shall form part of the calendar of activities for both basic and higher educational institutions. The Ministry of Basic, Higher and Technical Education (MBHTE) is mandated to undertake commemorative activities and programs in schools, colleges, and universities.

The MBHTE shall prepare literature on the ideals and bravery espoused by the core members to inspire the students and the general public.

Section 7. *Commemoration in All BARMM Government Offices.* – All BARMM government offices shall conduct a commemorative program on the heroism of the core members during the regional day of remembrance.

Section 8. *Appropriation.* – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual budget of the BCPCH.

Section 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The BCPCH, together with the MBHTE and the Ministry of Interior and Local Government, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, such as the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and the Moro National Liberation Front, shall issue the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act.

Section 10. *Separability Clause* – If any provision or portion of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not thereby affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 11, *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, ordinances, rules, and regulations, or other issuances, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, and/or modified accordingly.

Section 12. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least one (1) newspaper of regional circulation.

Approved,

AUTHOR:



AMILBAHAR S. MAWALLIL
Member of the Parliament

Certified correct:

PROF. RABY B. ANGKAL
Secretary-General

Attested by:

HON. PANGALIAN M. BALINDONG
Speaker