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## MEMORANDUM

FOR : All Undersecretaries  
All Bureau Directors

FROM : The Undersecretary  
Policy, Planning and International Affairs

SUBJECT : **REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON BILLS REFERRED BY THE  
COMMITTEE ON TOURISM OF THE HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES**

DATE : 14 September 2022

The Committee on Tourism of the House of Representatives is requesting the Department's comments and/or position papers on the bills referred to the Committee. In this regard may we respectfully request the comments on the local bills provided in the table below:

REGION CONCERNED	HOUSE BILLS
CARAGA	House Bill No. 768, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING JORDAN WATERFALLS IN THE CITY OF BAYUGAN, PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL SUR AS AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Alfelito "Alfel" M. Bascug and Rep. Eddiebong G. Plaza
REGION I	House Bill No. 1998, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING BARANGAY MALICO IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN NICOLAS, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Marlyn L. Primicias-Agabas
REGION II	House Bill No. 1062, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING BARANGAY MALICO IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SANTA FE, PROVINCE OF NUEVA VIZCAYA, AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Luisa Lloren Cuaresma;

	House Bill No. 1063, entitled, "AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN AGRI-TOURISM IN BARANGAY UDDIAWAN, MUNICIPALITY OF SOLANO IN THE PROVINCE OF NUEVA VIZCAYA," authored by Rep. Luisa Lloren Cuaresma;
REGION III	House Bill No. 1384, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING COLOSBOA HILLS, ALSO KNOWN AS THE "NEW ZEALAND OF CENTRAL LUZON", LOCATED IN BARANGAY COLOSBOA, MUNICIPALITY OF CUYAPO, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA, A TOURIST DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Mikaela Angela B. Suansing;
	House Bill No. 2069, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING KITI-CALAO FALLS IN BARANGAY SAN JOSE, MUNICIPALITY OF MAYANTOC, PROVINCE OF TARLAC AS AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Jaime D. Cojuangco;
	House Bill No. 2070, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING ANZAP TWIN FALLS IN BARANGGAY BIBIGA, MUNICIPALITY OF MAYANTOC, PROVINCE OF TARLAC AS AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Jaime D. Cojuangco;
REGION IV-A	House Bill No. 1102, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING MAULAWIN SPRING PROTECTED LANDSCAPE IN BARANGAYS CALIMPAK, SAN PEDRO I, MAGSAYSAY AND HIMBUBULO WESTE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF GUINAYANGAN, PROVINCE OF QUEZON AS ECO-TOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Keith Micah "Atty. Mike" D.L. Tan;
	House Bill No. 1414, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE DEMONSTRATION FARM AND ECO PARK IN BARANGAY BUKAL MALIGAYA IN THE

	<p>MUNICIPALITY OF GUINAYANGAN, PROVINCE OF QUEZON AS ECO-TOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Keith Micah "Atty. Mike" D.L. Tan;</p> <p>House Bill No. 2549, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING MONA CAVE IN BARANGAY DANLAGAN BATIS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF GUINAYANGAN, PROVINCE OF QUEZON AS ECO-TOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Keith Micah "Atty. Mike" D.L. Tan;</p>
REGION IV-B	<p>House Bill No. 916, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING THE VERDE ISLAND PASSAGE MARINE CORRIDOR AS A MARITIME PROTECTED AREA AND ECOTOURISM ZONE, CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE VERDE ISLAND PASSAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES," authored by Rep. Mario Vittorio "Marvey" A. Mariño;</p> <p>House Bill No. 2729, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING THE VERDE ISLAND PASSAGE AS MARINE PROTECTED AREA AND AN ECO-TOURISM ZONE," authored by Rep. Alfonso V. Umali, Jr.;</p>
REGION V	<p>House Bill No. 1116, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF CAPALONGA IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES NORTE AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Josefina B. Tallado;</p> <p>House Bill No. 1120, entitled "AN ACT DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF JOSE PANGANIBAN IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES NORTE AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Josefina B. Tallado;</p> <p>House Bill No. 1121, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF LABO IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES NORTE AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND</p>

	<p>APROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,” authored by Rep. Josefina B. Tallado;</p>
	<p>House Bill No. 1122, entitled, “AN ACT DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF PARACALE IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES NORTE AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,” authored by Rep. Josefina B. Tallado;</p>
	<p>House Bill No. 1123, entitled, “AN ACT DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF SANTA ELENA IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES NORTE AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,” authored by Rep. Josefina B. Tallado</p>
	<p>House Bill No. 2260, entitled, “AN ACT DECLARING BANGA CAVES IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF RAGAY, PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,” authored by Rep. Luis Raymund “Lray” F. Villafuerte, Jr., Rep. Luis Miguel R. Villafuerte, Rep. Tsuyoshi Anthony G. Horibata and Rep. Nicholas C. Enciso III;</p>
	<p>House Bill No. 2261, entitled, “AN ACT DECLARING CALINIGAN MOUNTAIN RANGE IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF LAGONUY, PRESENTACION AND GARCHITORENA, PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,” authored by Rep. Luis Raymund “Lray” F. Villafuerte, Jr., Rep. Luis Miguel R. Villafuerte, Rep. Tsuyoshi Anthony G. Horibata and Rep. Nicholas C. Enciso III;</p>
	<p>House Bill No. 2262, entitled, “AN ACT DECLARING ADDITIONAL CAVES AND CAVE SYSTEMS AS PART OF THE LIBMANAN CAVES NATURAL PARK IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LIBMANAN, PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,” authored by Rep. Luis Raymund “Lray” F. Villafuerte, Jr., Rep. Luis Miguel R. Villafuerte, Rep. Tsuyoshi Anthony G. Horibata and Rep. Nicholas C. Enciso III;</p>

	<p>House Bill No. 2271, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING PAG-ORING CAVES IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LIBMANAN, PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Luis Raymund "Lray" F. Villafuerte, Jr., Rep. Luis Miguel R. Villafuerte, Rep. Tsuyoshi Anthony G. Horibata and Rep. Nicholas C. Enciso III;</p>
<p>REGION VII</p>	<p>House Bill No. 105, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING THE BAGACAY POINT LIGHTHOUSE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LILOAN, PROVINCE OF CEBU, AS A TOURIST DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Vincent Franco "Duke" D. Frasco;</p> <p>House Bill No. 106, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING SANTAGO PUBLIC BEACH IN THE CAMOTES ISLANDS, MUNICIPALITY OF SAN FRANCISCO, PROVINCE OF CEBU, AS A TOURIST DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Vincent Franco "Duke" D. Frasco;</p>
<p>REGION VIII</p>	<p>House Bill No. 2233, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING THE TWIN ISLANDS OF SAN PEDRO AND SAN PABLO IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF HINUNANGAN, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE AN ECOTOURISM ZONE, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Christopherson M. Yap;</p> <p>House Bill No. 2237, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING THE TAGBAK MARINE PARK IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LILOAN, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE AN ECOTOURISM ZONE, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Christopherson M. Yap;</p> <p>House Bill No. 2239, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING BARANGAY NAPANTAO IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN</p>

	FRANCISCO, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE AN ECOTOURISM ZONE, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Christopherson M. Yap;
REGION IX	House Bill No. 1256, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING BACULAN FALLS IN BARANGAY GOLICTOP, MUNICIPALITY OF MIDSALIP, PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR AS ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Divina Grace C. Yu;
REGION X	House Bill No. 964, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING CAGAYAN DE ORO RIVER AND ITS IMMEDIATE ENVIRONS LOCATED IN CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL A CULTURAL HERITAGE ZONE," authored by Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez;
	House Bill No. 2448, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING HULUGA CAVES 1 & 2 IN BARANGAY INDAHAG, CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AS ECOTOURISM SITES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez;
	House Bill No. 2449, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING KALAPAT CAVE IN BARANGAY DANSOLIHON, CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez;
	House Bill No. 2450, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING KWEBBA DE ORO IN BARANGAY BAYANGA, CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez;
	House Bill No. 2451, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING LANGAG CAVE IN BARANGAY DANSOLIHON, CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez;

	House Bill No. 2452, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING MACAHAMBUS CAVE IN BARANGAY BAYANGA, CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez;
	House Bill No. 2453, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING MAMBUAYA CAVE IN BARANGAY MAMBUAYA, CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez;
	House Bill No. 2454, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING BOLUTOHAN CAVE IN BARANGAY INDAHAG, CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AS AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez;
	House Bill No. 2455, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING CALABERA CAVE IN BARANGAY INDAHAG, CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AS AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez;
	House Bill No. 2870, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING MIGTALAHID FALLS IN BARANGAY DANSOLIHON IN CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez;
	House Bill No. 2871, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING BIRHEN FALLS IN BARANGAY DANSOLIHON IN CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez;
	House Bill No. 2872, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING IGBALALAY FALLS IN BARANGAY BALUBAL IN CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez;
	House Bill No. 2873, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING MIGTUGSOK FALLS IN

	<p>BARANGAY FS CATANICO IN CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez;</p>
	<p>House Bill No. 2874, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING SINULOM FALLS AND BULAO COLD SPRING IN BARANGAY TIGNAPOLOAN IN CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez;</p>
	<p>House Bill No. 2875, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING ULO BALONGKOT FALLS IN BARANGAY DANSOLIHON IN CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez;</p>
	<p>House Bill No. 3321, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING LAKE APO LOCATED AT BARANGAY GUINOYORAN, CITY OF VALENCIA, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE TO ENCOURAGE THE RESPONSIBLE AND SUSTAINABLE USE AS WELL AS FOR THE PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES FOUND THEREIN, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES," authored by Rep. Laarni L. Roque;</p>
	<p>House Bill No. 3472, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING DODIONGAN FALLS IN BARANGAY BONBONON, ILIGAN CITY, LANA DEL NORTE AS TOURIST SITE AND AS ECO-TOURISM ZONE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES," authored by Rep. Celso G. Regencia;</p>
<p>REGION XI</p>	<p>House Bill No. 2488, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING THE ISLAND-MUNICIPALITY OF SARANGANI, PROVINCE OF DAVAO OCCIDENTAL AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. Claude P. Bautista</p>
	<p>House Bill No. 3078, entitled, "AN ACT DECLARING BARANGAY MANAGA, SITIO BALUTAKAY IN THE</p>



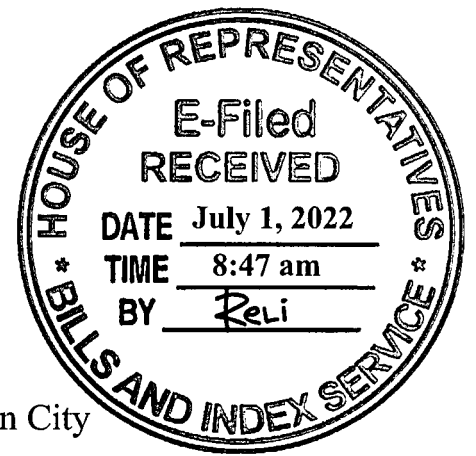
	MUNICIPALITY OF BANSALAN, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL SUR AS AN ECO-AGRITOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," authored by Rep. John Tracy F. Cagas.
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For your easy perusal, attached are copies of the subject legislative measures. Kindly submit your inputs on or before 20 September 2022, copy furnished Legislative Liaison Office through email [denrlegislative@yahoo.com](mailto:denrlegislative@yahoo.com).

  
ATTY. JONAS R. LEONES



Republic of the Philippines  
**House of Representatives**  
Constitution Hills, Batasan Complex, Quezon City



**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
1st Regular Session

House Bill No. 768

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Introduced by Representatives **ALFEL M. BASCUG** and **EDDIEBONG G. PLAZA**

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**AN ACT DECLARING JORDAN WATERFALLS IN THE CITY OF  
BAYUGAN, PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL SUR AS AN ECOTOURISM  
SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

**Explanatory Note**


This bill seeks to declare Jordan Waterfalls as an ecotourism site in the City of Bayugan, Province of Agusan del Sur.


Jordan Waterfalls located in Barangay Gethsemane, Bayugan City is a treasured tourist spot in the remote area of the City. This hidden beauty is a home to various attractions counting its beautiful mountain scenery, wide variety of flora and fauna and a deep blue water in which tourists can indulge in numerous popular ecotourism related activities such as swimming, hiking, and forest adventures.

This hidden gem has been considered as a tourist attraction to locals but has never been publicly exposed to other tourists in the Philippines and the world. With the lack of needed development and promotion, the tourism potential of the place has been curtailed. Thus, for this gem to be developed and become a fully grown tourism destination, it should be declared as an ecotourism site.

The development of Jordan Waterfalls into an ecotourism site will not just enhance its aesthetic value but will also boost local government income and create employment opportunities for the people of Agusan del Sur.

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

  
**ALFEL M. BASCUG**  
1<sup>ST</sup> District, Agusan del Sur

  
**EDDIEBONG G. PLAZA**  
2<sup>ND</sup> District, Agusan del Sur



Republic of the Philippines  
**House of Representatives**  
Constitution Hills, Batasan Complex, Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
1st Regular Session

House Bill No. 768

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Introduced by Representatives **ALFEL M. BASCUG** and **EDDIEBONG G. PLAZA**

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**AN ACT DECLARING JORDAN WATERFALLS IN THE CITY OF  
BAYUGAN, PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL SUR AS AN ECOTOURISM  
SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**SEC. 1.** The Jordan Waterfalls located in Barangay Gethsemane, Bayugan City, province of Agusan del Sur is hereby declared an ecotourism site. As such, its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

**SEC. 2.** Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the DOT shall, in coordination with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and concerned local government units and agencies of the government, prepare a tourism development plan that shall include the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate infrastructure and facilities in the area: Provided, That said development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the

natural beauty and resources of the area.

**SEC. 3.** The DOT and its concerned attached agencies shall take immediate steps to implement the development plan with due consideration to the natural characteristics of the Jordan Falls, and shall incorporate the same in its tourism development program for the calendar year immediately succeeding the approval of this Act. It shall also include the Jordan Falls in all of its national, regional and local promotion programs.

**SEC. 4.** The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act, and shall augment such allocation with internally generated funds of the Department.

**SEC. 5.** Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOT shall, in consultation with the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority and concerned government agencies and stakeholders, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

**SEC. 6.** If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

**SEC. 7.** All laws, rules, regulations, presidential decrees and other issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

**SEC. 8.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1998



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Introduced by Representative **MARLYN L. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to declare Barangay Malico of the Municipality of San Nicolas in the Province of Pangasinan as Ecotourism Zone.

Ecotourism involves travel to destinations where flora, fauna, and cultural heritage are the primary attractions. It is intended to offer tourists an insight into the impact of human beings to the environment, and to foster a greater appreciation of the natural habitats.

Barangay Malico (Malico) of the Municipality of San Nicolas is fortunate to be home to an untapped ecotourism destination which has been laying unclaimed for the past several years. A barangay which has shrugged off modern comfort for years, Malico rests on the crest of the Caraballo Mountains with an altitude of 1,675 meters above sea level. It has a land area of 1,618 hectares, more or less, nurtured by indigenous people mostly from the Kalanguya Tribe. Cocooned by mother nature with a cold climate as that of the City of Baguio, Malico produces temperate crops like strawberries and other upland vegetables. It is dotted with pine trees which are mute to Malico's abundant cultural and wartime history. It is also dubbed as the second summer capital of the Philippines. Aside from the cold weather, Malico has a viewdeck which offers a breathtaking sunset view over the plains of Pangasinan. A hundred meters from the viewdeck also lies a Sherman tank of the United States' 32<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division, which became known as the "Red Arrow Division", a witness to the gruelling battle during the second world war and a favorite photo spot for tourists abounding Malico. To this day, Japanese tourists visit the

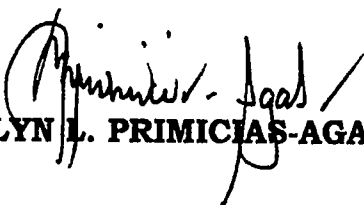
WWII Peace Memorial Park in Malico, a park for Japanese fallen heroes. Had the late President Marcos not been exiled, it would have been developed and tagged as Marcos City.

There is also the Villa Verde Trail. Historically significant, it is the place of one of the fiercest battles between the Filipino, American and Japanese forces during the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War. Much has been said about the landing of General Douglas McArthur at Lingayen Gulf, but little emphasis has been made on the bloody skirmishes between the 32<sup>nd</sup> Division of the U.S. Sixth Army and General Tomoyuki Yamashita's 14<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division where thousands of gallant soldiers fell, mostly in stand up fights, along the terrains of the Villa Verde Trail as evidenced by numerous foxholes, spent bullets and casings, the Sherman tank, and the WWII Peace Memorial Park.

The Villa Verde Trail commonly known as the Villa Verde Road is a major link connecting the Ilocos Region to Cagayan Valley via Santa Fe, Nueva Vizcaya. Motorists originating from Pangasinan and Region III need not negotiate the Dalton Pass to reach Sta. Fe. The Villa Verde Road is now under major rehabilitation.

Recently, Malico has become a favorite destination to hikers, bikers, and tourists. Before the pristine view, cultural and historical heritage of Malico is lost to the perils of urbanization, there is a need to equally protect the same through appropriate legislative measures such as its declaration as ecotourism zone. With its declaration, the State can advance Malico's development without losing sight of its cultural, historical, and anthropological heritage.

Hence, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
**MARLYN L. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS**

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1998

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Introduced by Representative **MARLYN L. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS**  
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**AN ACT DECLARING BARANGAY MALICO IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF  
SAN NICOLAS, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN AN ECOTOURISM ZONE  
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. Barangay Malico in the Municipality of San Nicolas, Province of Pangasinan, is hereby declared as an ecotourism zone. As such, its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism zones.

SEC. 2. Within six (6) months after the approval of this Act, the DOT in coordination with the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority and other concerned agencies of the government, shall prepare a tourism plan involving the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and infrastructure as shall encourage tourism in the area: *Provided*, That the development plan shall ensure the preservation of the natural beauty and historical significance in the area.



SEC. 3. The DOT shall take immediate steps to implement the tourism development plan and incorporate the same in its tourism development program for the ensuing calendar year.

SEC. 4. The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and internally generated funds of the DOT.

SEC. 5. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DOT shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for its proper implementation.

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

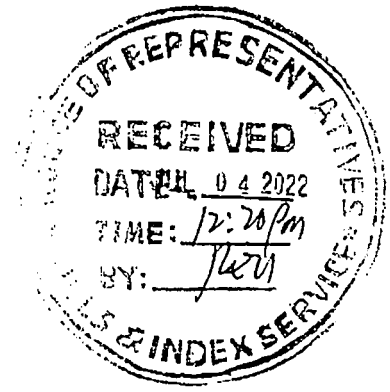
Approved,



Republic of the Philippines  
House of Representatives

NINETEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1062



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Introduced by Rep. Luisa Lloren Cuaresma  
Lone District of Nueva Vizcaya

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**AN ACT DECLARING BARANGAY MALICO IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SANTA FE, PROVINCE OF NUEVA VIZCAYA, AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to declare Barangay Malico in the Municipality of Santa Fe, Province of Nueva Vizcaya an ecotourism zone.

Barangay Malico is one of the sixteen (16) barangays in the Municipality of Santa Fe, which stretches to the municipalities of Santa Rosa in Nueva Ecija, and San Nicolas in Pangasinan. It is a small barangay with a population of two hundred twenty-six (226) people as determined by the 2015 census, that mostly belong to the *Ikalahan-Kalanguya* tribe. It has an elevation of 1,675 meters above sea level, which is higher than Baguio City. Its cold weather temperature of seven to nine degrees Celsius is suitable for growing crops like strawberries, cabbage, carrots, and other upland vegetables.

Barangay Malico has a picturesque view that offers tourists magnificent landscapes filled with a pine forest that stretches along the Pangasinan-Nueva Vizcaya road. Every portion of the road is Instagram-worthy that gives motorists and tourists a breathtaking view of the undiscovered mountain paradise. The place also offers an amazing view of the sunset over the plains of Nueva Vizcaya and Pangasinan. Tourists may also have a glimpse of World War II because the remains of the Sherman tank, which the United States 32<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division used during the American-Japanese war, still sit in the middle of the forest. A World War II Peace Memorial Park was also in Barangay Malico, in honor of thousands of gallant soldiers who died in the war.

After exploring the pine forest of Barangay Malico tourists may dive and relax in the cold water of Hingi and Seven Layer waterfalls.

Because of its cultural heritage, rich natural wonders, untouched nature, and unique terrain, Barangay Malico requires preservation, sustainability as well as development to enhance and preserve its beauty and progress. It may be recognized as a first-class ecotourism destination if it is equipped with amenities and facilities complementing its full potential as an ecotourism zone.

The declaration of Barangay Malico as an ecotourism zone will promote its preservation and will create economic opportunities for local communities.

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

*Luisa Lloren Cuaresma*  
LUISA LLOREN CUARESMA



Republic of the Philippines  
**House of Representatives**

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**

*First Regular Session*

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1062**

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**Introduced by Rep. Luisa Lloren Cuaresma**  
**Lone District of Nueva Vizcaya**

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**AN ACT DECLARING BARANGAY MALICO IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SANTA FE, PROVINCE OF NUEVA VIZCAYA, AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**SECTION 1.** Barangay Malico, in the Municipality of Santa Fe, Province of Nueva Vizcaya is hereby declared an ecotourism zone. Its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism zones.

**SECTION 2.** Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the DOT shall, in coordination with the local government units of the Municipality of Santa Fe and agencies of the government, prepare a tourism development plan involving the construction, installation, and maintenance of appropriate infrastructure and facilities that shall encourage tourism in the area: *Provided*, That said development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the natural beauty and resources of the area: *Provided, further*, That any activities and development to be carried out in the area should conform with the concept of ecotourism as provided in the national ecotourism strategy jointly issued by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the DOT.

**SECTION 3.** The DOT and its attached agencies shall take immediate steps to implement the tourism development plan that suits the natural characteristics of Barangay Malico, and shall incorporate the same in its tourism development program for the ensuing calendar year. It shall also include Barangay Malico in all its national, regional, and local promotion programs.

**SECTION 4.** The Secretary of Tourism shall include in the DOT's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.

**SECTION 5.** Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Tourism shall, in consultation with the local government of the Municipality of Santa Fe, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

**SECTION 6.** All laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended accordingly.

**SECTION 7.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

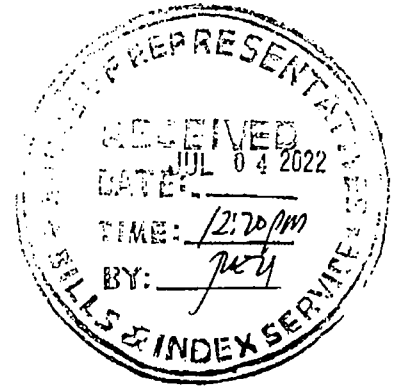
Approved,



Republic of the Philippines  
**House of Representatives**

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
*First Regular Session*

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1063**



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**Introduced by Rep. Luisa Lloren Cuaresma**  
**Lone District of Nueva Vizcaya**

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN AGRI-TOURISM IN BARANGAY UDDIAWAN,  
MUNICIPALITY OF SOLANO IN THE PROVINCE OF NUEVA VIZCAYA**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

One of the developmental challenges identified during the workshop of the economic sector was the problem on the farmers' low income brought about by high cost of production. To address this issue, the sub-sector on agriculture identified the establishment of an Agri-tourism farm as one of the possible solutions to the said problem.

In view of the vast agricultural lands of Solano lies the challenges faced by the farmers. The tourism industry of Solano on the other hand has the potential to augment the promotion of the agricultural sector through integrating activities that will help in sustaining these two competitive sectors.

Although there are about forty-one (41) accredited Agri-tourism sites located in the Philippines, the concept of integrating agriculture and tourism activities is relatively new in the province. The introduction of this project is therefore viewed as an attractive venture to the public.

The Solano Integrated Agri-Tourism Center or SIATC is a five-hectare Agri-tourism site located at the rural barangay of Uddiawan, Solano, Nueva Vizcaya. Its components include among others the rice production area, vegetable production area, orchard production area, and greenhouse, fishpond, training center, guest house, and office and processing area.

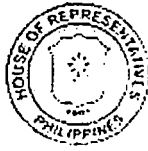
It is the project's main objective to provide economic benefits through increased job opportunities for farmers. Aside from the economic benefits that can be derived by the farmers and the local government from this project, social and environmental benefits of long-term and immediate effects are most likely to be generated.

Upon its operation, it is expected to benefit 6,590 workers from the agricultural sector and the 38 tourism-related establishments within the municipality. The National government Agencies (NGAs) such as the Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Tourism (DOT), Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), and Philippine Statistic Authority (PSA) are the LGU's partners in its implementation. Private sectors and LRIs are likewise included.

This project, when developed and managed appropriately could significantly offset the socioeconomic fallout resulting from declined incomes in farming areas. The increased tourist arrival, expansion of business, and increased job opportunities will contribute to the income improvement of family, community and government.

Hence, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly requested.

*Luisa Loren Cuaresma*  
LUISA LLOREN CUARESMA



Republic of the Philippines  
**House of Representatives**

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
*First Regular Session*

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1063**

---

**Introduced by Rep. Luisa Lloren Cuaresma**  
**Lone District of Nueva Vizcaya**

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN AGRI-TOURISM IN BARANGAY UDDIAWAN,  
MUNICIPALITY OF SOLANO IN THE PROVINCE OF NUEVA VIZCAYA**

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

**SECTION 1. Short Title** – This act shall be known as the “Solano Integrated Agri-Tourism Center Act”

**SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy** – It is a clear mandate of our fundamental law to protect and conserve our environment not only for our benefit but most importantly, for the generations to come.

Section 16, Article II of the 1987 Constitution provides that, “The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.”

Further, Section 22, Article II of the 1987 Constitution provides that, “The State recognizes and promotes the rights of indigenous cultural communities within the framework of national unity and development.

Towards this end, it is hereby declared as the policy of the State to promote a tourism industry that is ecologically sustainable, responsible, participative, culturally sensitive, economically viable and equitable for communities.

**SECTION 3. Objectives** – the project seeks to provide numerous economic benefits to the farmers as well as to the surrounding community members. Its operation aims to increase income opportunities throughout the year thereby increasing the family income.

The project is likewise viewed to be a means to encourage more tourists to experience actual farm activities while appreciating the value of farmers’ produce.

On the part of the municipality, the project intends support local economy through various goods and services available to the tourists and by increasing its local tax bases through utilization of the locally available fresh produce.

The project aims to provide not only economic benefits but also social and environmental benefits including its resultant long-term effects, some which are enumerated below:

1. Bring different people together providing therefore opportunities for cultural exchange;
2. Support local crafts produced by women, out-of-school youth, persons with disabilities, drug surrenders' and others;
3. Create a vehicle for educational research and studies; and,
4. Help reduce public health risk against non-organic agricultural products.

**SECTION 5. Solano Integrated Agri-Tourism Center** – This Act hereby declares Solano Integrated Agri-Tourism Center in Barangay Uddiawan, municipality of Solano, province of Nueva Vizcaya as an Agri-Tourism Site.

**SECTION 6. Agri-Tourism Master Plan** - The Municipal Government of Solano, Nueva Vizcaya, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Department of Tourism (DOT) shall jointly prepare an Ecotourism Master Plan for Solano Integrated Agri-Tourism Center and to promulgate necessary rules and regulations to be implemented by the local government in coordination with concerned government agencies.

**SECTION 7. Agri-Tourism Council** – There is hereby created and an eco-tourism council, to be known as “Solano Integrated Agri-Tourism Council”, hereinafter referred to as the Council to be composed of one representative each from accredited non-government organizations and people’s organizations engaged in eco-tourism, one recognized indigenous people’s federation, reputable travel organizations, the academe and the local chief executive of the Municipality of Solano, Province of Nueva Vizcaya who shall sit as the chairman of the Council.

Solano’s local legislative body shall appoint the members of the Council for a term of five (5) years, renewable for one term.

The Department of Tourism (DOT) and Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and national Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) shall assist the Council in its task in pursuing the objectives of this Act.

**SECTION 8. Appropriations** – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the budget of concerned government agencies in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

**SECTION 9. Implementation** – Within sixty (60) days after the implementation of this Act, the DENR in coordination with DOT and NCIP shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulation to govern the effective implementation of this Act.

**SECTION 10. Repealing Clause** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, administrative orders or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 11. Separability Clause** – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

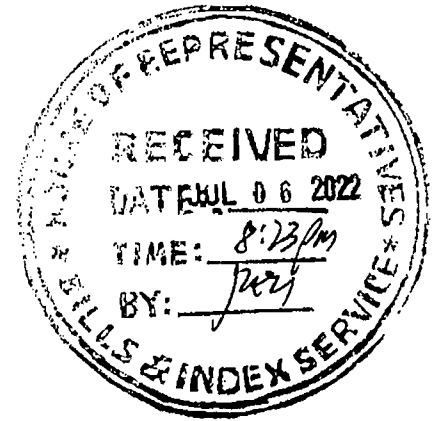
**SECTION 12. Effectivity Clause** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1384



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Introduced by  
**REPRESENTATIVE MIKAELA ANGELA B. SUANSING**

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AN ACT  
DECLARING COLOSBOA HILLS, ALSO KNOWN AS THE "NEW ZEALAND OF CENTRAL LUZON", LOCATED IN BARANGAY COLOSBOA, MUNICIPALITY OF CUYAPO, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA, A TOURIST DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Cuyapo is a quiet town in the northern part of the Province of Nueva Ecija. It boasts of hills and mountains that offer spectacular views for locals and tourists alike. One of the mountains of Cuyapo, Mt. Bulaylay, has been declared a tourist destination through Republic Act No. 11406.


In 2020, the local internet community has been abuzz as pictures of Colosboa Hills began circulating in social media. Dubbed as the New Zealand of Central Luzon, Colosboa Hills has been a favorite destination for locals who enjoy biking and hiking. As more visitors are drawn to the area, there is a need to ensure that the following are met: safety and security for the tourists, accessibility, and the preservation and conservation of the area.

This bill aims to declare Colosboa Hills, also known as the New Zealand of Central Luzon, located in Barangay Colosboa, Municipality of Cuyapo, Province of Nueva Ecija, as a tourist destination, mandating the Department of Tourism and its attached agencies, in coordination with the Department of Public Works and Highways, and in consultation with the local government of Cuyapo, to prepare and implement a comprehensive development plan for the overall improvement of Colosboa Hills to ensure that the needs stated above are met.

To be declared a tourist destination would likewise bring more employment and livelihood opportunities for the residents and shall greatly contribute to the town's socioeconomic growth.



In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.<sup>1</sup>

  
**MIKAELA ANGELA B. SUANSING**  
1<sup>st</sup> District of Nueva Ecija

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<sup>1</sup> This bill was originally filed by Rep. Estrellita B. Suansing during the 18<sup>th</sup> Congress and was subsequently approved by the Committee on Tourism.

**Republic of the Philippines**  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**Quezon City**

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
**Second Regular Session**

House Bill No. 1384

---

**Introduced by**  
**REPRESENTATIVE MIKAELA ANGELA B. SUANSING**

---

**AN ACT**

**DECLARING COLOSBOA HILLS, ALSO KNOWN AS THE “NEW ZEALAND OF CENTRAL LUZON”, LOCATED IN BARANGAY COLOSBOA, MUNICIPALITY OF CUYAPO, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA, A TOURIST DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Colosboa Hills, also known as the “New Zealand of Central Luzon”, located in  
2 Barangay Colosboa, Municipality of Cuyapo, Province of Nueva Ecija is hereby declared a  
3 tourist destination. As such, it shall be accorded with priority development by the Department  
4 of Tourism (DOT) and other concerned agencies subject to the rules and regulations governing  
5 the development of tourist destinations.

6  
7 **SEC. 2.** The DOT, in coordination with the Department of Public Works and Highways  
8 (DPWH) and other concerned agencies of the government shall, immediately after the  
9 effectivity of this Act, prepare a development plan involving the construction, installation, and  
10 maintenance of such appropriate facilities and infrastructure that shall improve the overall  
11 feature of the area, thereby ensuring the accessibility and security of the tourists; *Provided,*  
12 That the said development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the historical  
13 significance of the area.

14  
15 **SEC. 3.** The DOT and its attached agencies shall take immediate steps in implementing the  
16 tourism development plan that will suit the needs of Colosboa Hills located in Barangay  
17 Colosboa, Municipality of Cuyapo, Province of Nueva Ecija, and shall incorporate the same in  
18 its overall development plans and programs for national implementation.

19  
20 **SEC. 4.** The DOT, in consultation with the local government unit of Cuyapo, shall promulgate  
21 the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.  
22

1 **SEC. 5.** The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the  
2 implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be charged against the internally  
3 generated funds of the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA) and/or  
4 the appropriations in the annual General Appropriations Act.

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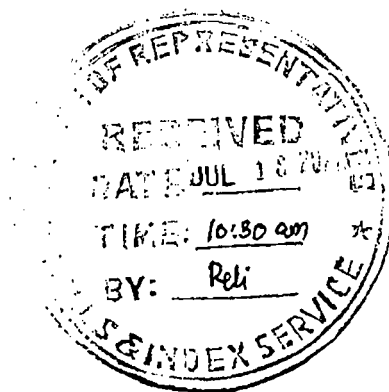
6 **SEC. 6.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette*  
7 or in a newspaper of national circulation.

8

9 Approved,

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

HOUSE BILL NO. 2069



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Introduced by Representative JAIME EDUARDO MARC D. COJUANGCO

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare Kiti-Calao Falls in the Municipality of Mayantoc, Province of Tarlac as an eco-tourism site.

Located in Brgy. San Jose, Mayantoc, Tarlac, this hidden water falls is a hiking destination in town, nearby provinces, and even citizens from Metro Manila. Visitors shall trek a 45 minute to an hour under the forest canopy while enjoying the various flora and fauna of the area. The Kiti-Calao falls is a hidden paradise with its 20 feet drop, lush green surrounding and its crystal clear water that can be enjoyed by tourists.

For the following reasons, this representation believes that Kiti-Calao Falls can become an international tourist destination. Thus, its development as an eco-tourism site will not only enhance its aesthetic value but it shall also incur economic benefits for the municipality and its people.

In this regard, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

JAIME EDUARDO MARC D. COJUANGCO  
Representative  
1<sup>st</sup> District of Tarlac

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

HOUSE BILL NO. 2069

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Introduced by Representative JAIME EDUARDO MARC D. COJUANGCO

---

**AN ACT  
DECLARING KITI-CALAO FALLS IN BARANGGAY SAN JOSE, MUNICIPALITY  
OF MAYANTOC, PROVINCE OF TARLAC AS AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1 Section 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as "Kiti-calao falls Ecotourism  
2 Act"

3

4 Section 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to  
5 promote a tourism industry that is ecologically stable, responsible, participative,  
6 culturally sensitive, economically viable and equitably beneficial to local communities.

7

8 Section 3. The Kiti-calao falls in Baranggay San jose, Municipality of Mayantoc,  
9 Province of Tarlac is hereby declared an ecotourism site. Its development shall be  
10 prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and  
11 regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

12

13 The DOT shall prepare and incorporate the development plan for Kiti-calao falls  
14 in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic Act  
15 No. 9593, otherwise known as "The Tourism Act of 2009". The plan shall be  
16 implemented jointly with the municipality of Mayantoc, the local Protected Area  
17 Management Board (PAMB), and the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone  
18 Authority (TIEZA).

19

20 The DOT, in coordination with the Municipality of Mayantoc, the PAMB, the  
21 TIEZA and other concerned agencies and instrumentalities of the government, shall  
22 identify well defined geographic areas within Kiti-calao falls ecotourism site and  
23 coordinate the integrated development of the areas for the optimum utilization of  
24 natural assets and attractions, as well as existing infrastructures and facilities; Provided,  
25 that the development shall ensure the preservation of the scenery and historic  
26 significance of the identified tourist attractions.

27

28 Section 4. Implementation. - Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act,  
29 the Secretary of Tourism, in consultation with the municipality of Mayantoc, the PAMB,  
30 the TIEZA and other tourism stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules and  
31 regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

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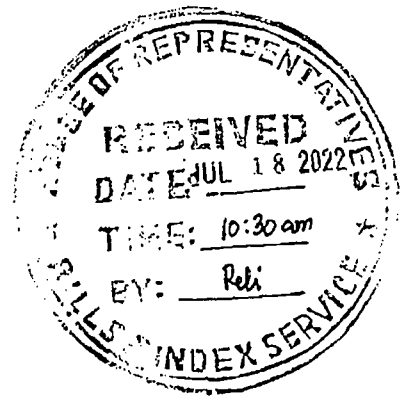
Section 5. Appropriations. - The Secretary of Tourism shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the General Appropriations Act and internally generated funds of the DOT.

Section 6. Repealing Clause. - All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, rules and regulations and other issuances contrary or inconsistent with this Act shall be deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 7. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

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



HOUSE BILL NO. 2070

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Introduced by Representative JAIME EDUARDO MARC D. COJUANGCO

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare the Anzap Twin Falls in the Municipality of Mayantoc, Province of Tarlac as an eco-tourism site.

Showcasing an amazing 200 feet waterfalls and the area being surrounded by lush greenery, the Anzap Twin Falls is hailed as one of the most visited tourist destinations in the province of Tarlac. It is located in Baranggay Bibiga, Mayantoc. Visitors can enjoy the breath taking scenery and enjoy outdoor activities, such as trekking, river crossing, overnight camping, and other activities in the forested area that covers the twin falls.

For the following reasons, this representation believes that Anzap Falls can become an international tourist destination. Thus, its development as an eco-tourism site will not only enhance its aesthetic value but it shall also incur economic benefits for the municipality and its people.

In this regard, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JAIME EDUARDO MARC D. COJUANGCO".

JAIME EDUARDO MARC D. COJUANGCO  
Representative  
1<sup>st</sup> District of Tarlac

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

HOUSE BILL NO. 2070

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Introduced by Representative JAIME EDUARDO MARC D. COJUANGCO

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**AN ACT  
DECLARING ANZAP TWIN FALLS IN BARANGGAY BIBIGA, MUNICIPALITY  
OF MAYANTOC, PROVINCE OF TARLAC AS AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1 Section 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as "Anzap Twin Falls  
2 Ecotourism Act"

3  
4 Section 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to  
5 promote a tourism industry that is ecologically stable, responsible, participative,  
6 culturally sensitive, economically viable and equitably beneficial to local communities.

7  
8 Section 3. The Anzap Twin Falls in Baranggay Bibiga, Municipality of Mayantoc,  
9 Province of Tarlac is hereby declared an ecotourism site. Its development shall be  
10 prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and  
11 regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

12  
13 The DOT shall prepare and incorporate the development plan for Anzap Twin  
14 Falls in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic  
15 Act No. 9593, otherwise known as "The Tourism Act of 2009". The plan shall be  
16 implemented jointly with the municipality of Mayantoc, the local Protected Area  
17 Management Board (PAMB), and the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone  
18 Authority (TIEZA).

19  
20 The DOT, in coordination with the Municipality of Mayantoc, the PAMB, the  
21 TIEZA and other concerned agencies and instrumentalities of the government, shall  
22 identify well defined geographic areas within Anzap Twin Falls ecotourism site and  
23 coordinate the integrated development of the areas for the optimum utilization of  
24 natural assets and attractions, as well as existing infrastructures and facilities; Provided,  
25 that the development shall ensure the preservation of the scenery and historic  
26 significance of the identified tourist attractions.

27  
28 Section 4. Implementation. - Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act,  
29 the Secretary of Tourism, in consultation with the municipality of Mayantoc, the PAMB,  
30 the TIEZA and other tourism stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules and  
31 regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.



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Section 5. Appropriations. - The Secretary of Tourism shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the General Appropriations Act and internally generated funds of the DOT.

Section 6. Repealing Clause. - All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, rules and regulations and other issuances contrary or inconsistent with this Act shall be deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 7. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1102



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Introduced by: Hon. Keith Micah "Atty. Mike" D.L. Tan

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**AN ACT**

**DECLARING MAULAWIN SPRING PROTECTED LANDSCAPE IN BARANGAYS CALIMPAK, SAN PEDRO I, MAGSAYSAY AND HIMBUBULO WESTE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF GUINAYANGAN, PROVINCE OF QUEZON AS ECO-TOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Article II, Section 16 of the Constitution provides that *"The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature."*

The Maulawin Spring Protected Landscape has been declared a protected are by virtue of Republic Act No. 11038, otherwise known as the *"Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 2018"*. The area consists of forested hills and several rivers and streams located in Guinayangan, Quezon.

It was created in 1939 to protect the watershed in Guinayangan, Quezon known as the Maulawin Spring Watershed Forest Reserve, which was declared through Proclamation No. 365 by President Manuel Luis Quezon. It had an initial area of 60 hectares (150 acres). In 2000, the forest reserve was enlarged and was redesignated as a protected landscape under the National Integrated Protected Areas System by virtue of Proclamation No. 295 issued by President Joseph Estrada. It is the only source of potable water for domestic consumption of the more than 40,000 residents of Guinayangan.

The Maulawin Spring Protected Landscape covers an area of 149.01 hectares (368.2 acres) of lowland forest in the barangays of Himbubulo, San Pedro and Magsaysay in west-central Guinayangan. It sits on a hilly terrain in the eastern portion of the Tayabas Isthmus and the northeastern extreme of Bondoc Peninsula near Guinayangan's border with the municipalities of Calauag and Lopez. The park is traversed by several rivers and creeks, some of which dry up during the summer months and which empty into the Catabangan Bay and Ragay Gulf, including the Maulawin River, Hiwasayan River, Tubog Creek and Prenza River. These rivers supply water for the Guinayangan Water District. The topography of the park is characterized as a complex of land configuration ranging from slightly level, sloping to rolling, and steep to hilly and rugged mountains. It has an elevation of between 250 metres (820 ft) and 500 metres (1,600 ft) above sea level and is composed primarily of clay loam.

The park is located about 1.5 kilometres (0.93 mi) west of the Guinayangan Poblacion and some 130 kilometers (81 mi) east of the provincial capital city of Lucena. It is surrounded by private agricultural lands and coconut plantations in Ermita, San Roque, Dungawan and Sisi. It is accessible via the provincial road to Guinayangan from the Pan-Philippine Highway (AH26) in Calauag, thence by foot through numerous trails from barangays Sisi and Calimpak.

The park is a forested area with sixty percent of its territory inhabited by dipterocarp trees, including molave, kamagong, guijo, red lauan, and white lauan, yakal and manggachapui. It is home to a diverse bird species, such as the Philippine dwarf kingfisher, rufous hornbill, northern sooty woodpecker, black-naped oriole, Philippine coucal, jungle crow, coletto, black-winged kite and Philippine collared dove. It also supports some large mammals, including the crab-eating macaque, Philippine deer, Philippine warty pig, Asian palm civet, as well several bats and snakes.<sup>1</sup>

The bill seeks to declare the Maulawin Spring Protected Landscape in the Municipality of Guinayangan, Province of Quezon as eco-tourism site. Its designations as an eco-tourism destination will greatly help facilitate the growth and promotion of tourism in Quezon and the CALABARZON. It will also ensure that the rich biological diversity in the area is protected and preserved. Also, its growth as an eco-tourism destination will significantly support the local economy by providing employment and trade opportunities.

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

  
Keith Mijah "Atty. Mike" D.L. Tan  
4th District, Quezon

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<sup>1</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maulawin\\_Spring\\_Protected\\_Landscape](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maulawin_Spring_Protected_Landscape) Accessed on 20 August 2021

*Republic of the Philippines*  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
*First Regular Session*

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1102**

---

Introduced by: Hon. Keith Micah "Atty. Mike" D.L. Tan

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**AN ACT**  
**DECLARING MAULAWIN SPRING PROTECTED LANDSCAPE IN BARANGAYS CALIMPAK, SAN PEDRO I, MAGSAYSAY AND HIMBUBULO WESTE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF GUINAYANGAN, PROVINCE OF QUEZON AS ECO-TOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** - This Act shall be known as the "Maulawin Spring Protected Landscape Eco-Tourism Zone Act".

**SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote a tourism industry that is ecologically sustainable, responsible, participative, culturally sensitive, economically viable and equitably beneficial to local communities.

**SEC. 3. *Maulawin Spring Protected Landscape Eco-Tourism Zone.*** - The Maulawin Spring Protected Landscape located in Barangays Calimpak, San Pedro I, Magsaysay, and Himbubulo Weste in the Municipality of Guinayangan, Province of Quezon is hereby declared an eco-tourism zone. Its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism zones.

The DOT shall prepare the development plan for the Maulawin Spring Protected Landscape and shall incorporate the same in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as "The Tourism Act of 2009". The Plan shall be implemented jointly with the Municipality of Guinayangan, the local Protected Area Management Board (PAMB), and the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA).

The DOT, in coordination with the Municipality of Guinayangan, the PAMB, the TIEZA, and other concerned agencies of government, shall identify well defined areas within the Maulawin Spring Protected Landscape Eco-Tourism Zone and ensure the integrated development of these areas for the optimum utilization of natural assets and attractions, as well as the preservation of their historic significance.

**SEC. 4. *Appropriations.*** - The Secretary of Tourism shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

**SEC. 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** - Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Tourism, in consultation with the Municipality of Guinayangan, the PAMB and the TIEZA, shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

**SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

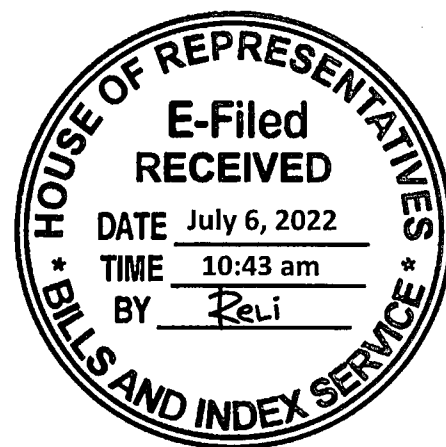
SEC. 7. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1414



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Introduced by: Hon. Keith Micah "Atty. Mike" D.L. Tan

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**AN ACT**  
**DECLARING CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE DEMONSTRATION FARM AND ECO PARK IN BARANGAY**  
**BUKAL MALIGAYA IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF GUINAYANGAN, PROVINCE OF QUEZON AS ECO-**  
**TOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Article II, Section 16 of the Constitution provides that *"The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature."*

The Climate Smart Agriculture Demonstration Farm and Eco Park is located in Barangay Bukal Maligaya, Guinayangan, Quezon. It was established as a response to the need for context-specific solutions to climate risks, particularly to enable farmers to utilize experiential learning to weather the challenges posed by climate change and significantly improve food security in local communities in the face of heightened risks to agriculture-based livelihood due to changing climate.

Currently, it houses various farm facilities such as the green house, vermicomposting facility, tilapia breeding center, poultries, goat area; and native pig farm. The Climate Smart Agriculture Demonstration Farm and Eco Park has an abundant supply of cacao, dragon fruit, coconut dwarf, guyabano, banana, and cassava. It also features the utilization of Sloping Agriculture Land Technology (SALT), which is a package technology of soil conservation and food production, integrating differing soil conservation measures in just one setting where calamansi and black pepper with madre de cacao are grown as permanent crops.

This bill seeks to declare the Climate Smart Agriculture Demonstration Farm and Eco Park as eco-tourism site, which is hoped to help facilitate the growth and promotion of tourism in Quezon and the CALABARZON. It will also ensure that the rich biological diversity in the area is protected and preserved. Also, its growth as an eco-tourism destination will significantly support the local economy by providing employment and trade opportunities.

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

  
Keith Micah "Atty. Mike" D.L. Tan  
4th District, Quezon

*Republic of the Philippines*  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
*First Regular Session*

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1414**

---

Introduced by: Hon. Keith Micah "Atty. Mike" D.L. Tan

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**AN ACT**  
**DECLARING CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE DEMONSTRATION FARM AND ECO PARK IN BARANGAY BUKAL MALIGAYA IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF GUINAYANGAN, PROVINCE OF QUEZON AS ECO-TOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Climate Smart Agriculture Demonstration Farm and Eco Park Eco-Tourism Zone Act".

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote a tourism industry that is ecologically sustainable, responsible, participative, culturally sensitive, economically viable and equitably beneficial to local communities.

SEC. 3. *Climate Smart Agriculture Demonstration Farm and Eco Park Eco-Tourism Zone.* – The Climate Smart Agriculture Demonstration Farm and Eco Park located in Barangay Bukal Maligaya in the Municipality of Guinayangan, Province of Quezon is hereby declared an eco-tourism zone. Its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism zones.

The DOT shall prepare the development plan for the Climate Smart Agriculture Demonstration Farm and Eco Park and shall incorporate the same in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as "The Tourism Act of 2009". The Plan shall be implemented jointly with the Municipality of Guinayangan, the local Protected Area Management Board (PAMB), and the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA).

The DOT, in coordination with the Municipality of Guinayangan, the PAMB, the TIEZA, and other concerned agencies of government, shall identify well defined areas within the Climate Smart Agriculture Demonstration Farm and Eco Park and ensure the integrated development of these areas for the optimum utilization of natural assets and attractions, as well as the preservation of their historic significance.

SEC. 4. *Appropriations.* – The Secretary of Tourism shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Tourism, in consultation with the Municipality of Guinayangan, the PAMB and the TIEZA, shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 7. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*



Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2549



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Introduced by: Hon. Keith Micah "Atty. Mike" D.L. Tan

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**AN ACT**

**DECLARING MONA CAVE IN BARANGAY DANLAGAN BATIS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF GUINAYANGAN,  
PROVINCE OF QUEZON AS ECO-TOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Article II, Section 16 of the Constitution provides that "*The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.*"

The Mona Cave is located in Sitio Siete, Barangay Danlagan Batis, Guinayangan, Quezon. Danlagan Batis is located on the north eastern part of Guinayangan and is bounded by Danlagan Reserva, Bukal Maligaya, and San Antonio. It is more or less 135 kilometers from Lucena City; 255 kilometers from Manila via South Luzon Expressway; and 15 kilometers from Guinayangan town proper. The barangay is traversed by partly cemented farm to market road. From the roadside, the cave can be accessed by a 15-minute trek through footpaths within farms and coconut plantations.

This bill seeks to declare the Mona Cave as eco-tourism site, which is hoped to help facilitate the growth and promotion of tourism in Quezon and the CALABARZON. It will also ensure that the rich biological diversity in the area is protected and preserved. Also, its growth as an eco-tourism destination will significantly support the local economy by providing employment and trade opportunities.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "km Tan".

Keith Micah "Atty. Mike" D.L. Tan  
4th District, Quezon

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
*First Regular Session*

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2549**

---

Introduced by: Hon. Keith Micah "Atty. Mike" D.L. Tan

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**AN ACT**

**DECLARING MONA CAVE IN BARANGAY DANLAGAN BATIS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF GUINAYANGAN,  
PROVINCE OF QUEZON AS ECO-TOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Mona Cave Eco-Tourism Zone Act".

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote a tourism industry that is ecologically sustainable, responsible, participative, culturally sensitive, economically viable and equitably beneficial to local communities.

SEC. 3. *Mona Cave Eco-Tourism Zone.* – The Mona Cave located in Barangay Danlagan Batis in the Municipality of Guinayangan, Province of Quezon is hereby declared an eco-tourism zone. Its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism zones.

The DOT shall prepare the development plan for the Mona Cave and shall incorporate the same in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as "The Tourism Act of 2009". The Plan shall be implemented jointly with the Municipality of Guinayangan, the local Protected Area Management Board (PAMB), and the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA).

The DOT, in coordination with the Municipality of Guinayangan, the PAMB, the TIEZA, and other concerned agencies of government, shall identify well defined areas within the Mona Cave Eco-Tourism Zone and ensure the integrated development of these areas for the optimum utilization of natural assets and attractions, as well as the preservation of their historic significance.

SEC. 4. *Appropriations.* – The Secretary of Tourism shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Tourism, in consultation with the Municipality of Guinayangan, the PAMB and the TIEZA, shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 7. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 916



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Introduced by **Rep. MARIO VITTORIO "MARVEY" A. MARIÑO**  
5<sup>th</sup> District, Batangas

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**AN ACT DECLARING THE VERDE ISLAND PASSAGE MARINE CORRIDOR AS A MARITIME PROTECTED AREA AND AN ECOTOURISM ZONE, CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE VERDE ISLAND PASSAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

***EXPLANATORY NOTE***

The Verde Island Passage is one of the rich biodiversity areas in the country and has been declared the center of center of the world's marine shore fish diversity by marine scientists. As such, the national government and local government units have taken measures to protect, conserve and sustainably use biological diversity to ensure and secure the well-being of the present and future generations of Filipinos.

Then President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, for instance, issued Executive Order No. 578 which established a national policy on biological diversity and created an *ad hoc* task force to ensure the protection, conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in the Verde Island Passage Marine Corridor, and formulate a Verde Island Passage Management Plan in consultation with stakeholders, the private sector, civil society and local communities.

Local government units, in cooperation with national government agencies, law enforcement, and civil society, signed a memorandum of agreement to create a network for the protection and sustainable management of the Verde Island Passage.

Despite these significant steps, the Verde Island Passage remains vulnerable. Human activities such as fishing, shipping, tourism, and navigation still pose a serious threat. Thus, this bill seeks to urgently declare the Verde Island Passage Marine Corridor as a Marine Protected Area and an Ecotourism Zone. The bill also proposes the creation of a management body that shall implement the existing management plan and the policies enunciated in the proposed Act.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Mario Vittorio 'Marvey' A. Mariño".

**MARIO VITTORIO "MARVEY" A. MARIÑO**

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 916

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Introduced by **Rep. MARIO VITTORIO “MARVEY” A. MARIÑO**  
5<sup>th</sup> District, Batangas

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**AN ACT DECLARING THE VERDE ISLAND PASSAGE MARINE CORRIDOR AS A MARITIME PROTECTED AREA AND AN ECOTOURISM ZONE, CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE VERDE ISLAND PASSAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

**SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as the “Verde Island Passage Marine Corridor Protected Area Act”.

**SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – Considering the Verde Island Marine Corridor is recognized as the world’s center of marine biodiversity, it is hereby declared the policy of the State to conserve and protect its marine resources and promote the welfare of the human communities therein, their culture and way of life insofar as they are in harmony with nature. Towards this end, the State shall ensure the optimal resource utilization, conservation, protection, and promotion of the sustainable coastal and marine development of the areas covered by the Verde Island Passage Marine Corridor.

**SECTION 3. *Scope.*** – The Verde Island Passage Marine Corridor lies between the southern coast of the province of Batangas and the northern coast of Mindoro Island, more particularly described as follows:

Point	X Coordinates	Y Coordinates	LONGITUDE			LATITUDE			Remarks
			DEG	MIN	SEC	DEG	MIN	SEC	
1	121.45733	13.81120	121	27	26	13	48	40	Boundary bet. San Juan & Sariaya (River)
2	121.86471	13.56996	121	51	53	13	34	12	Northern tip of Marinduque ( Mogpo)
3	122.03394	13.20391	122	2	0	13	12	14	Boundary of Buenavista & Torrijos (S. Tip)
4	122.14901	12.90621	122	8	56	13	54	22	Water ( SE of Banton Island)
5	122.14901	12.11870	122	7	7	13	45	39	Water
6	122.09967	12.74913	122	5	59	13	44	57	Water
7	122.08140	12.74523	122	4	53	13	44	43	Water
8	122.08031	12.74514	122	4	49	13	44	43	Water
9	122.04462	12.74501	122	2	41	13	44	42	Water
10	122.00176	12.75186	122	0	6	13	45	7	Water
11	121.48678	12.99637	121	29	12	13	59	47	Boundary b/w Pinamalayan & Gloria
12	120.29944	13.44654	120	17	58	13	26	48	Tip of Paluan ( Cape Calavite )
13	120.02122	13.88239	120	1	16	13	52	57	Cabra Island
14	120.02540	13.89695	120	1	31	13	53	49	Cabra Island A
15	120.58856	14.22214	120	35	19	14	13	20	Cabra Island A

**SECTION 4. Definition of Terms.** – The terms used in this Act are as follows:

*Existing Management Plan* shall refer to the Verde Island Passage Management Plan formulated and completed by the Ad Hoc Task Force on Verde Island Passage pursuant to Executive Order No. 578 issued on November 8, 2006.

*Non-Government Organization (NGO)* – any civic, developmental, environmental, or philanthropic non-stock, non-profit organization, duly registered, having by-laws, democratically-elected representatives, with qualifications, expertise and objectivity in activities concerning community organization and development, or resource and environmental conservation, management relative to protected areas.

*Protected Area* – a clearly defined geographical space, recognized, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values.

*VIPMB* – Verde Island Passage Management Board.

*VIPMC* – Verde Island Passage Marine Corridor.

**SECTION 5. Verde Island Passage Management Board.** – A Verde Island Passage Management Board is hereby created under the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to implement the existing management plan and policies enunciated under this Act. It shall be composed of:

- a. The Secretary of the DENR, as Chairperson;
- b. The Governors of the Province of Batangas, the Province of Marinduque, the Province of Mindoro Occidental, the Province of Mindoro Oriental, and the Province of Romblon, as co-chairpersons;
- c. The local chief executives of the Batangas City, Municipalities of Nasugbu, Lian, Calatagan, Balayan, Calaca, Lemery, Taal, San Luis, Mabini, Tingloy, Bauan, San Pascual, Lobo, San Juan in the Province of Batangas, Municipalities of Mogpog, Boac, Gasan and Buenavista in the Province of Marinduque, Municipalities of Abra de Ilog, Paluan, Lubang and Looc in the Province of Mindoro Occidental, Calapan City, Municipalities of Puerto Galera, San Teodoro, Naujan, Baco, Pola and Pinamalayan in the Province of Mindoro Oriental, Municipalities of Concepcion, Corcuera and Banton in the Province of Romblon as Vice Chairpersons;
- d. The Executive Director of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DA-BFAR) Regions IV-A and IV-B, as member;
- e. The Regional Director of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) Regions IV-A and IV-B, as member;
- f. The Regional Directors (Region IV-A and IV-B) of the Departments of Tourism (DOT), Science and Technology (DOST), Health (DOH), Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Interior and Local Government (DILG), Justice (DOJ), Energy (DOE), Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Health (DOH), Finance (DOF), Labor and Employment (DOLE), Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Transportation (DOTr), Trade and Industry (DTI), National Defense (DND), Philippine National Police (PNP) for Regions IV-A and IV-B, as members;
- g. Two (2) representatives from the academe, to be appointed by the President upon recommendation of the DENR Secretary, as members; and
- h. Two (2) representatives from NGOs, to be chosen from among themselves in an election duly called for the purpose, as members.

**SECTION 6. *Term.*** – Except for government officials who shall serve ex-officio, every VIPMB member shall serve for a term of three (3) years; Provided, That the said member remains connected with the sector being represented. Whenever a vacancy occurs during the term of a member who does not represent the government, a new member shall be chosen in the same manner as the original process to serve the remaining term of the predecessor.

**SECTION 7. *Powers and Functions of the Board.*** – The VIPMB shall have the following powers and functions:

- a. Formulate the Verde Island Passage Marine Protected and Ecotourism Master Plan that is consistent with the existing Management Plan.

- b. Ensure the proper implementation and enforcement of existing laws, rules and regulations, policies, and programs within the VIPMC;
- c. Decide matters relating to planning, resource use and protection, and general administration of the area in accordance with the existing Management Plan Framework;
- d. Coordinate with national and local agencies, local government units, local communities, the academe, non-government organizations, and such other institutions to ensure the conservation, management, and proper zoning of coastal waters to reduce possible conflict in the use of resources in VIPMC;
- e. Provide guidelines and best practices for coastal and foreshore development planning that take into account the likelihood for increase storm activity, saltwater intrusion, and other climate change impacts;
- f. Initiate partnerships with the private sector and the local government units concerned on establishing processes for dealing with pollution, including but not limited to oil spills, through the Environmental Impact Assessment System;
- g. Facilitate access to technical assistance and information among different agencies, sectors, and local government units;
- h. Regulate construction, operation, and maintenance of structures and utilities within the VIPMC;
- i. Generate funds and accept donations and grants and exercise accountability over all funds that may accrue to the VIPMC;
- j. Convene a conflict resolution mechanism;
- k. Provide adequate measures to ensure consultation and participation of stakeholders;

**SECTION 8. *The Secretariat.*** – The Board, through a Resolution, shall establish a Secretariat to provide administrative support to the VIPMC Management Board. The Secretariat shall have the following functions:

- a. Coordinate day-to-day activities related to the implementation of the Management Plan;
- b. Arrange and service meetings of the Board; and
- c. Prepare the necessary reports and documents.

**SECTION 9. *Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary for the initial operating expenses of the VIPMB shall be charge d to the appropriations authorized for the DENR. Thereafter, the sum necessary for the continued operation and maintenance of the VIPMB shall be charged from the user fees to be imposed by the respective local

government units concerned. This income shall be derived from the tourist fess, contributions from industries and facilities directly benefiting from the use of the portions of VIPMC.

**SECTION 10. *Implementing Rules.*** – Within 90 days from its effectivity, the VIPMB and other concerned agencies shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

**SECTION 11. *Separability Clause.*** – All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with any provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 12. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, memorandum circulars inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 13. *Effectivity Clause.*** – This Act shall take effect within fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.

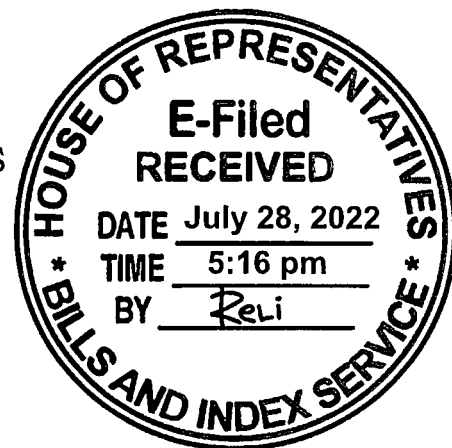
Approved,



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**House Bill No. 2729**



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**Introduced by Honorable ALFONSO V. UMALI JR.**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to declare the Verde Island Passage as Marine Protected Area (MPA) and Eco-Tourism Zone.

The Province of Oriental Mindoro is bestowed with various natural aquatic treasures, one of which is known as the “Verde Island.” Meanwhile, the “Verde Island Passage,” which is about one hundred (100) kilometers in length and about twenty (20) kilometers across its narrowest point, accomodates spectacular reef formations of more than three (300) species of corals and underwater rock canyons and serve as home to more than half of the world’s known shore fish species. As such, the Verde Island Passage has been described as the “Center of the World’s Marine Biodiversity.”

Cognizant of its potential for eco-tourism development, being an economic pump-primer, and, more importantly, the indubitable urgency of protecting, conserving and promoting the sustainable use of the Verde Island Passage, the undersigned strongly recommend the enactment of this bill.

Thus, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alfonso V. Umali, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

**ALFONSO V. UMALI, JR.**  
Representative  
Second District, Oriental Mindoro

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**House Bill No. 2729**

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**Introduced by Honorable ALFONSO V. UMALI JR.**

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**AN ACT**  
**DECLARING THE VERDE ISLAND PASSAGE**  
**AS MARINE PROTECTED AREA AND AN ECO-TOURISM ZONE**

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

**SECTION 1. Statement of Policy.** – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to protect its natural resources and to promote sustainable tourism industry. Towards this end, the State shall formulate effective strategies to conserve our resources and to rationalize all efforts pertaining to environment protection while creating an enabling eco-tourism industry especially in the countryside.

**SECTION 2. Declaration.** - The Verde Island Passage is hereby declared as a Marine Protected Area (MPA) and Eco-tourism Zone. Accordingly, it shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing MPAs and Eco-Tourism Zones.

**SECTION 3. Marine Protected Area and Eco-tourism Master Plan.** – The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), in coordination with the Department of Tourism, the concerned Local Government Units, and with other concerned offices and agencies of the government, shall formulate and prepare the “Marine Protected Area and Eco-tourism Master Plan” (MPAEMP) for the Verde Island Passage within a year from the approval of this Act, and to strengthen the existing local structural frameworks for support and cooperation to facilitate smooth implementation of the MPAEMP.

**SECTION 4. Appropriation.** – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be taken from the appropriation of the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

**SECTION 5. Separability Clause.** – Should any provision herein be declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity of other provisions of this Act.

**SECTION 6. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

**SECTION 7. Effectivity Clause.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **1116**



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Introduced by **HON. JOSEFINA B. TALLADO**

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**AN ACT DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF CAPALONGA IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES NORTE AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

*EXPLANATORY NOTE*

The Province of Camarines Norte in the Bicol Region is included in the National Tourism Masterplan as a Tourism Development Area. Among the many towns in Camarines Norte, the municipality of Capalonga in the 1<sup>st</sup> Legislative District is one of those that stands out with respect to ecotourism potential.

Capalonga is famous for many tourist attractions, world-class beaches and a renowned pilgrimage site, specifically the Shrine of the Black Nazarene, which draws thousands of pilgrims of different nationalities every May 13<sup>th</sup>.

Pulong Guijanlao in Camagsaan is, in fact, situated in this municipality and it never failed to amaze people with its white beach. Selfie Beach Resort, Tinagong Beach together with its Bali-inspired attractions, Sabang Beach and Lom-oc beach are also among the top notch destinations. There are also myriad of water falls like the Banca-banca, Banokbok and Itok Falls that are at par with the best falls in the country. The town also boasts of its Sabong-sabong Reef and Dive Site that is still a hidden gem among dive enthusiasts. These are just some of the examples of the endless tourist destination in the area.

In light of the huge potential of the Municipality of Capalonga to become a top tourist destination, it is hereby sought that the Municipality of Capalonga in the Province of Camarines Norte be declared as an Ecotourism Zone. This declaration would indubitably create new jobs, improve the local livelihood and will be beneficial for the domestic economy.

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

  
**HON. JOSEFINA B. TALLADO**  
1<sup>st</sup> District, Camarines Norte



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1116

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Introduced by **HON. JOSEFINA B. TALLADO**

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**AN ACT DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF CAPALONGA IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES NORTE AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1           **SECTION 1. Short Title.** This Act shall be known as the "Capalonga Ecotourism Act of 2022".  
2

3           **SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote a  
4 sustainable and effective ecotourism industry to attract tourists, both local and foreign. Towards this end,  
5 the country should rationalize all efforts to make the tourism industry a major source of livelihood and an  
6 avenue for economic development. Moreover, measures should be taken to ensure that tourism  
7 development would be done with a view on the preservation of the existing ecosystem and natural  
8 environment.  
9

10           **SECTION 3. Capalonga Ecotourism Zone.** –The Municipality of Capalonga in the Province of  
11 Camarines Norte is hereby declared as an Ecotourism Zone. As such, its development shall be prioritized  
12 by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and other concerned agencies, subject to the rules and regulations  
13 governing the development of ecotourism zones.  
14

15           In particular, the development of the following areas will be given focus by the DOT, the  
16 concerned government agencies and also the Municipality of Capalonga, Province of Camarines Norte,  
17 to wit:  
18

- 19           a. Pulong Guijanlao;  
20           b. The immediate environs of the Selfie Beach Resort and Tinagong Beach Resort;  
21           c. Capalonga Lighthouse;  
22           d. Sabang Beach;  
23           e. Lom-oc Beach;  
24           f. Banca-banca Falls, Banokbok Falls and Itok Falls;  
25           g. Sabong-sabong Reef and Dive Site;  
26           h. Alayao River, Camagsaan River and Mataque River; and

- 27 i. The immediate environs of the Shrine of the Black Nazarene.  
28

29 **SECTION 4. Ecotourism Governing Board.** – Within one (1) year from the approval of this Act,  
30 there shall be created the Capalonga Ecotourism Governing Board, to be composed of the following:  
31

- 32 a. Mayor of the Municipality of Capalonga, as *ex-officio* Chairperson  
33 b. Secretary of the Department of Tourism or a duly-authorized representative, as member;  
34 c. Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources or a duly-authorized  
35 representative, as member;  
36 d. Representative of the 1<sup>st</sup> District of Camarines Norte or a duly-authorized representative, as  
37 member;  
38 e. Representative from an accredited non-governmental organization whose advocacy is  
39 environmental preservation, as member;  
40 f. Representative of the academe, as member; and  
41 g. Representative from the business sector, as member.  
42

43 The Board shall prepare the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of  
44 this Act and shall, when necessary, amend, modify or revise such rules and regulations to meet existing  
45 needs.  
46

47 The Municipal Government of Capalonga shall provide a secretariat for the Board including the  
48 funding necessary to cover expenses for the performance of its official functions and activities.  
49

50 **SECTION 5. Ecotourism Development Plan.** – Within one (1) year from the approval of this Act,  
51 the DOT, in coordination with the local government unit of Capalonga, the Representative of the 1<sup>st</sup>  
52 District of Camarines Norte and other concerned government agencies, shall prepare an ecotourism  
53 development plan containing, among others, the construction, installation and maintenance of such  
54 appropriate facilities and infrastructure that shall enhance tourism in the Municipality of Capalonga,  
55 particularly in the areas mentioned in Section 3 hereof; Provided, that the said development plan shall  
56 ensure the preservation and conservation of the natural beauty and indigenous nature of the locality.  
57

58 **SECTION 6. Implementation of the Plan.** The DOT shall take immediate steps in implementing  
59 the ecotourism development plan and incorporate the same in its overall development plans and  
60 programs for national implementation.  
61

62 **SECTION 7. Appropriations.** The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's  
63 program, the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General  
64 Appropriations Act and internally generated funds of the DOT.  
65

66 **SECTION 8. Separability Clause.** – If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional  
67 or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.  
68

69 **SECTION 9. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, rules, regulations, presidential decrees, and other  
70 issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.  
71

72 **SECTION 10. Effectivity Clause.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication  
73 in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.  
74

75 **Approved.**



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **1120**



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Introduced by **HON. JOSEFINA B. TALLADO**

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**AN ACT DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF JOSE PANGANIBAN IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES NORTE AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

*EXPLANATORY NOTE*

Camarines Norte has been identified in the Department of Tourism's National Tourism Masterplan as a Tourism Development Area. This designation signals the importance to lay down measures which will improve and enhance the tourism capabilities of the province to goals of the Masterplan.

Indeed Camarines Norte is still a vastly untapped tourism destination and surely, among the many towns in Camarines Norte, the town of Jose Panganiban is definitely one of those that stands out with respect to ecotourism potential.

Jose Panganiban boasts of Parola Island, Calalanay Island, Isla ni Cion, Pag-asa Beach and Bulalacao Beach that are still widely untapped due to lack of adequate tourism infrastructure.

In light of the huge potential of the Municipality of Jose Panganiban to become a top tourist destination, it is hereby sought it be declared as an Ecotourism Zone. The passage of this bill will surely create new jobs, improve the local livelihood and will be beneficial for the domestic economy.

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

**HON. JOSEFINA B. TALLADO**  
Representative  
1<sup>st</sup> District, Camarines Norte



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1120

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Introduced by **HON. JOSEFINA B. TALLADO**

---

**AN ACT DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF JOSE PANGANIBAN IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES NORTE AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1           **SECTION 1.** *Short Title.* This Act shall be known as the “Jose Panganiban Ecotourism Act of  
2 2022”.

3  
4           **SECTION 2.** *Declaration of Policy.* It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote a  
5 sustainable and effective ecotourism industry to attract tourists, both local and foreign. Towards this end,  
6 the country should rationalize all efforts to make the tourism industry a major source of livelihood and an  
7 avenue for economic development. Moreover, measures should be taken to ensure that tourism  
8 development would be done with a view on the preservation of the existing ecosystem and natural  
9 environment.

10  
11           **SECTION 3.** *Jose Panganiban Ecotourism Zone.* –The Municipality of Jose Panganiban in the  
12 Province of Camarines Norte is hereby declared as an Ecotourism Zone. As such, its development shall  
13 be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and other concerned agencies, subject to the rules  
14 and regulations governing the development of ecotourism zones.

15  
16           In particular, the development of the following areas will be given focus by the DOT, the  
17 concerned government agencies and also the Municipality of Jose Panganiban, Province of Camarines  
18 Norte, to wit:

- 19  
20           a. Parola Island;  
21           b. Calalanay Island;  
22           c. Isla ni Cion;  
23           d. Pag-asa Beach; and  
24           e. Bulalacao Beach.  
25



26           **SECTION 4. Ecotourism Governing Board.** – Within one (1) year from the approval of this Act,  
27 there shall be created the Jose Panganiban Ecotourism Governing Board, to be composed of the  
28 following:

- 29  
30           a. Mayor of the Municipality of Jose Panganiban, as *ex-officio* Chairperson  
31           b. Secretary of the Department of Tourism or a duly-authorized representative, as member;  
32           c. Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources or a duly-authorized  
33           representative, as member;  
34           d. Representative of the 1<sup>st</sup> District of Camarines Norte or a duly-authorized representative, as  
35           member;  
36           e. Representative from an accredited non-governmental organization whose advocacy is  
37           environmental preservation, as member;  
38           f. Representative of the academe, as member; and  
39           g. Representative from the business sector, as member.  
40

41           The Board shall prepare the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of  
42 this Act and shall, when necessary, amend, modify or revise such rules and regulations to meet existing  
43 needs.  
44

45           The Municipal Government of Jose Panganiban shall provide a secretariat for the Board  
46 including the funding necessary to cover expenses for the performance of its official functions and  
47 activities.  
48

49           **SECTION 5. Ecotourism Development Plan.** – Within one (1) year from the approval of this Act,  
50 the DOT, in coordination with the local government unit of Jose Panganiban, the Representative of the  
51 1<sup>st</sup> District of Camarines Norte and other concerned government agencies, shall prepare an ecotourism  
52 development plan containing, among others, the construction, installation and maintenance of such  
53 appropriate facilities and infrastructure that shall enhance tourism in the Municipality of Jose Panganiban,  
54 particularly in the areas mentioned in Section 3 hereof; Provided, that the said development plan shall  
55 ensure the preservation and conservation of the natural beauty and indigenous nature of the locality.  
56

57           **SECTION 6. Implementation of the Plan.** The DOT shall take immediate steps in implementing  
58 the ecotourism development plan and incorporate the same in its overall development plans and  
59 programs for national implementation.  
60

61           **SECTION 7. Appropriations.** The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's  
62 program, the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General  
63 Appropriations Act and internally generated funds of the DOT.  
64

65           **SECTION 8. Separability Clause.** – If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional  
66 or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.  
67

68           **SECTION 9. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, rules, regulations, presidential decrees, and other  
69 issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.  
70

71           **SECTION 10. Effectivity Clause.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication  
72 in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.  
73

74           **Approved.**



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **1121**



---

Introduced by **HON. JOSEFINA B. TALLADO**

---

**AN ACT DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF LABO IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES NORTE  
AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

*EXPLANATORY NOTE*

Camarines Norte has been identified in the Department of Tourism's National Tourism Masterplan as a Tourism Development Area. This designation signals the importance to lay down measures which will improve and enhance the tourism capabilities of the province to goals of the Masterplan.

Indeed Camarines Norte is still a vastly untapped tourism destination and surely, among the many towns in Camarines Norte, the town of Labo is definitely one of those that stands out with respect to ecotourism potential.

Labo boasts of breath-taking waterfalls, caves and other tourist hotspots that are still widely untapped due to lack of adequate tourism infrastructure.

In light of the huge potential of the Municipality of Labo to become one of the top tourist destinations, it is hereby sought it be declared as an Ecotourism Zone. The passage of this bill will surely create new jobs, improve the local livelihood and will be beneficial for the domestic economy.

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

**HON. JOSEFINA B. TALLADO**  
Representative  
1<sup>st</sup> District, Camarines Norte



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**House Bill No. 1121**

---

Introduced by **HON. JOSEFINA B. TALLADO**

---

**AN ACT DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF LABO IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES NORTE  
AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1           **SECTION 1. Short Title.** This Act shall be known as the "Labo Ecotourism Act of 2022".  
2

3           **SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote a  
4 sustainable and effective ecotourism industry to attract tourists, both local and foreign. Towards this end,  
5 the country should rationalize all efforts to make the tourism industry a major source of livelihood and an  
6 avenue for economic development. Moreover, measures should be taken to ensure that tourism  
7 development would be done with a view on the preservation of the existing ecosystem and natural  
8 environment.  
9

10           **SECTION 3. Labo Ecotourism Zone.** –The Municipality of Labo in the Province of Camarines  
11 Norte is hereby declared as an Ecotourism Zone. As such, its development shall be prioritized by the  
12 Department of Tourism (DOT) and other concerned agencies, subject to the rules and regulations  
13 governing the development of ecotourism zones.  
14

15           In particular, the development of the following areas will be given focus by the DOT, the  
16 concerned government agencies and also the Municipality of Labo, Province of Camarines Norte, to wit:  
17

- 18           a. Maligaya Falls;  
19           b. Binuang Falls;  
20           c. Malatap Falls;  
21           d. Turayog Falls;  
22           e. Saltahan Fall;  
23           f. Palanas Falls;  
24           g. Burok-busok Falls;  
25           h. Mt. Cadig Cave;

- 26 i. Mambuaya Cave; and  
27 j. Pintong Gubat  
28

29 **SECTION 4. *Ecotourism Governing Board.*** – Within one (1) year from the approval of this Act,  
30 there shall be created the Labo Ecotourism Governing Board, to be composed of the following:  
31

- 32 a. Mayor of the Municipality of Labo, as *ex-officio* Chairperson  
33 b. Secretary of the Department of Tourism or a duly-authorized representative, as member;  
34 c. Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources or a duly-authorized  
35 representative, as member;  
36 d. Representative of the 1<sup>st</sup> District of Camarines Norte or a duly-authorized representative, as  
37 member;  
38 e. Representative from an accredited non-governmental organization whose advocacy is  
39 environmental preservation, as member;  
40 f. Representative of the academe, as member; and  
41 g. Representative from the business sector, as member.  
42

43 The Board shall prepare the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of  
44 this Act and shall, when necessary, amend, modify or revise such rules and regulations to meet existing  
45 needs.  
46

47 The Municipal Government of Labo shall provide a secretariat for the Board including the funding  
48 necessary to cover expenses for the performance of its official functions and activities.  
49

50 **SECTION 5. *Ecotourism Development Plan.*** – Within one (1) year from the approval of this Act,  
51 the DOT, in coordination with the local government unit of Labo, the Representative of the 1<sup>st</sup> District of  
52 Camarines Norte and other concerned government agencies, shall prepare an ecotourism development  
53 plan containing, among others, the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate  
54 facilities and infrastructure that shall enhance tourism in the Municipality of Labo, particularly in the areas  
55 mentioned in Section 3 hereof; Provided, that the said development plan shall ensure the preservation  
56 and conservation of the natural beauty and indigenous nature of the locality.  
57

58 **SECTION 6. *Implementation of the Plan.*** The DOT shall take immediate steps in implementing  
59 the ecotourism development plan and incorporate the same in its overall development plans and  
60 programs for national implementation.  
61

62 **SECTION 7. *Appropriations.*** The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's  
63 program, the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General  
64 Appropriations Act and internally generated funds of the DOT.  
65

66 **SECTION 8. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional  
67 or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.  
68

69 **SECTION 9. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, rules, regulations, presidential decrees, and other  
70 issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.  
71

72 **SECTION 10. *Effectivity Clause.*** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication  
73 in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.  
74

75 **Approved.**



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1122



---

Introduced by **HON. JOSEFINA B. TALLADO**

---

**AN ACT DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF PARACALE IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES NORTE AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

*EXPLANATORY NOTE*

Camarines Norte has been identified in the Department of Tourism's National Tourism Masterplan as a Tourism Development Area. This designation signals the importance to lay down measures which will improve and enhance the tourism capabilities of the province to goals of the Masterplan.

Indeed Camarines Norte is still a vastly untapped tourism destination and surely, among the many towns in Camarines Norte, the town of Paracale is definitely one of those that stands out with respect to ecotourism potential.

Paracale is home to the *Parroquia de Nuestra Senora de Candelaria*, the oldest church in the Province and probably the region and boasts of many pristine beaches at par with the best the Philippines has to offer.

Pulang Daga Beach, Buhangin Beach, Gumaus Beach and Macolabo Island are some of the best places in Camarines Norte to visit.

In light of the huge potential of the Municipality of Paracale to become a top tourist destination, it is hereby sought that the Municipality of Paracale in the Province of Camarines Norte be declared as an Ecotourism Zone. The passage of this bill will surely create new jobs, improve the local livelihood and will be beneficial for the domestic economy.

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

**HON. JOSEFINA B. TALLADO**  
Representative  
1<sup>st</sup> District, Camarines Norte



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1122

---

Introduced by **HON. JOSEFINA B. TALLADO**

---

**AN ACT DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF PARACALE IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES NORTE AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1           **SECTION 1. Short Title.** This Act shall be known as the "Paracale Ecotourism Act of 2022".  
2

3           **SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote a  
4 sustainable and effective ecotourism industry to attract tourists, both local and foreign. Towards this end,  
5 the country should rationalize all efforts to make the tourism industry a major source of livelihood and an  
6 avenue for economic development. Moreover, measures should be taken to ensure that tourism  
7 development would be done with a view on the preservation of the existing ecosystem and natural  
8 environment.  
9

10           **SECTION 3. Paracale Ecotourism Zone.** –The Municipality of Paracale in the Province of  
11 Camarines Norte is hereby declared as an Ecotourism Zone. As such, its development shall be prioritized  
12 by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and other concerned agencies, subject to the rules and regulations  
13 governing the development of ecotourism zones.  
14

15           In particular, the development of the following areas will be given focus by the DOT, the  
16 concerned government agencies and also the Municipality of Paracale, Province of Camarines Norte, to  
17 wit:  
18

- 19           a. Puland Daga Beach;  
20           b. Buhangin Beach;  
21           c. Gumaus Beach;  
22           d. Macolabo Island; and  
23           e. The immediate environs of the *Parroquia de Nuestra Senora de Candelaria*.

24  
25           **SECTION 4. *Ecotourism Governing Board.*** – Within one (1) year from the approval of this Act,  
26 there shall be created the Paracale Ecotourism Governing Board, to be composed of the following:  
27

- 28           a. Mayor of the Municipality of Paracale, as *ex-officio* Chairperson  
29           b. Secretary of the Department of Tourism or a duly-authorized representative, as member;  
30           c. Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources or a duly-authorized  
31           representative, as member;  
32           d. Representative of the 1<sup>st</sup> District of Camarines Norte or a duly-authorized representative, as  
33           member;  
34           e. Representative from an accredited non-governmental organization whose advocacy is  
35           environmental preservation, as member;  
36           f. Representative of the academe, as member; and  
37           g. Representative from the business sector, as member.  
38

39           The Board shall prepare the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of  
40 this Act and shall, when necessary, amend, modify or revise such rules and regulations to meet existing  
41 needs.  
42

43           The Municipal Government of Paracale shall provide a secretariat for the Board including the  
44 funding necessary to cover expenses for the performance of its official functions and activities.  
45

46           **SECTION 5. *Ecotourism Development Plan.*** – Within one (1) year from the approval of this Act,  
47 the DOT, in coordination with the local government unit of Paracale, the Representative of the 1<sup>st</sup> District  
48 of Camarines Norte and other concerned government agencies, shall prepare an ecotourism  
49 development plan containing, among others, the construction, installation and maintenance of such  
50 appropriate facilities and infrastructure that shall enhance tourism in the Municipality of Paracale,  
51 particularly in the areas mentioned in Section 3 hereof; Provided, that the said development plan shall  
52 ensure the preservation and conservation of the natural beauty and indigenous nature of the locality.  
53

54           **SECTION 6. *Implementation of the Plan.*** The DOT shall take immediate steps in implementing  
55 the ecotourism development plan and incorporate the same in its overall development plans and  
56 programs for national implementation.  
57

58           **SECTION 7. *Appropriations.*** The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's  
59 program, the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General  
60 Appropriations Act and internally generated funds of the DOT.  
61

62           **SECTION 8. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional  
63 or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.  
64

65           **SECTION 9. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, rules, regulations, presidential decrees, and other  
66 issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.  
67

68           **SECTION 10. *Effectivity Clause.*** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication  
69 in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.  
70

71           **Approved.**



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1123



---

Introduced by **HON. JOSEFINA B. TALLADO**

---

**AN ACT DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF SANTA ELENA IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES NORTE AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

*EXPLANATORY NOTE*

Camarines Norte has been identified in the Department of Tourism's National Tourism Masterplan as a Tourism Development Area. This designation signals the importance to lay down measures which will improve and enhance the tourism capabilities of the province to goals of the Masterplan.

Indeed Camarines Norte is still a vastly untapped tourism destination and surely, among the many towns in Camarines Norte, the town of Santa Elena is definitely one of those that stands out with respect to ecotourism potential.

Santa Elena boasts of breath-taking tourist hotspots that are still widely untapped due to lack of adequate tourism infrastructure.

In light of the huge potential of the Municipality of Santa Elena to become one of the top tourist destinations, it is hereby sought that it be declared as an Ecotourism Zone. The passage of this bill will surely create new jobs, improve the local livelihood and will be beneficial for the domestic economy.

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

**HON. JOSEFINA B. TALLADO**  
Representative  
1<sup>st</sup> District, Camarines Norte





Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1123

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Introduced by **HON. JOSEFINA B. TALLADO**

---

**AN ACT DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF SANTA ELENA IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES NORTE AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1           **SECTION 1. Short Title.** This Act shall be known as the "Santa Elena Ecotourism Act of 2022".  
2

3           **SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote a  
4 sustainable and effective ecotourism industry to attract tourists, both local and foreign. Towards this end,  
5 the country should rationalize all efforts to make the tourism industry a major source of livelihood and an  
6 avenue for economic development. Moreover, measures should be taken to ensure that tourism  
7 development would be done with a view on the preservation of the existing ecosystem and natural  
8 environment.  
9

10           **SECTION 3. Santa Elena Ecotourism Zone.** –The Municipality of Santa Elena in the Province of  
11 Camarines Norte is hereby declared as an Ecotourism Zone. As such, its development shall be prioritized  
12 by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and other concerned agencies, subject to the rules and regulations  
13 governing the development of ecotourism zones.  
14

15           In particular, the development of the following areas will be given focus by the DOT, the  
16 concerned government agencies and also the Municipality of Santa Elena, Province of Camarines Norte,  
17 to wit:  
18

- 19           a. Imee-Irene Twin Falls (Busay Falls);  
20           b. Mt. Cadig Falls;  
21           c. Mag-asawang Bato  
22           d. Tinagong Dagat,  
23           e. Pulonguit-guit; and  
24           f. Pabungbungan Falls  
25

26  
27 **SECTION 4. *Ecotourism Governing Board.*** – Within one (1) year from the approval of this Act,  
28 there shall be created the Santa Elena Ecotourism Governing Board, to be composed of the following:  
29

- 30 a. Mayor of the Municipality of Santa Elena, as *ex-officio* Chairperson  
31 b. Secretary of the Department of Tourism or a duly-authorized representative, as member;  
32 c. Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources or a duly-authorized  
33 representative, as member;  
34 d. Representative of the 1<sup>st</sup> District of Camarines Norte or a duly-authorized representative, as  
35 member;  
36 e. Representative from an accredited non-governmental organization whose advocacy is  
37 environmental preservation, as member;  
38 f. Representative of the academe, as member; and  
39 g. Representative from the business sector, as member.  
40

41 The Board shall prepare the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of  
42 this Act and shall, when necessary, amend, modify or revise such rules and regulations to meet existing  
43 needs.  
44

45 The Municipal Government of Santa Elena shall provide a secretariat for the Board including the  
46 funding necessary to cover expenses for the performance of its official functions and activities.  
47

48 **SECTION 5. *Ecotourism Development Plan.*** – Within one (1) year from the approval of this Act,  
49 the DOT, in coordination with the local government unit of Santa Elena, the Representative of the 1<sup>st</sup>  
50 District of Camarines Norte and other concerned government agencies, shall prepare an ecotourism  
51 development plan containing, among others, the construction, installation and maintenance of such  
52 appropriate facilities and infrastructure that shall enhance tourism in the Municipality of Santa Elena,  
53 particularly in the areas mentioned in Section 3 hereof; Provided, that the said development plan shall  
54 ensure the preservation and conservation of the natural beauty and indigenous nature of the locality.  
55

56 **SECTION 6. *Implementation of the Plan.*** The DOT shall take immediate steps in implementing  
57 the ecotourism development plan and incorporate the same in its overall development plans and  
58 programs for national implementation.  
59

60 **SECTION 7. *Appropriations.*** The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's  
61 program, the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General  
62 Appropriations Act and internally generated funds of the DOT.  
63

64 **SECTION 8. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional  
65 or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.  
66

67 **SECTION 9. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, rules, regulations, presidential decrees, and other  
68 issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.  
69

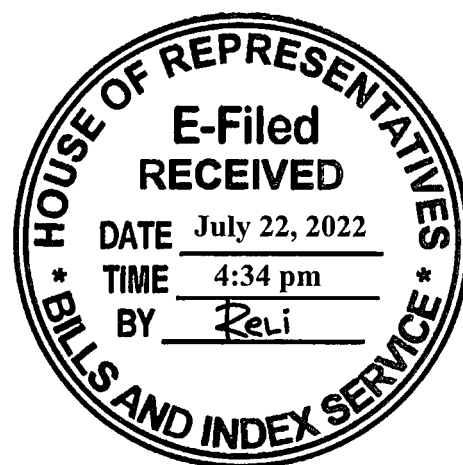
70 **SECTION 10. *Effectivity Clause.*** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication  
71 in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.  
72

73 **Approved.**

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2260



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Introduced by HON. LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.,  
HON. MIGUEL LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE, HON. TSUYOSHI ANTHONY G. HORIBATA  
AND HON. NICOLAS ENCISO VIII

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

This measure proposes to declare the Banga Caves in the Municipality of Ragay in Camarines Sur as an Ecotourism Site.

There are at least 17 caves in Banga. The term "banga" is a local name for palm tree (Arecaceae) that had grown largely in the area way back then and the 101 caves. Stories from the locals reveal that during the World War II, the caves served as one of the major camps of Japanese soldiers. It also speculated that soldiers used the caves as hiding spot from their enemies as evidenced by some tools and implements found therein.

Ecotourism is about uniting conservation, communities, and sustainable travel. The declaration of the ecotourism site helps build environmental and cultural awareness and respect. It is aimed not only at conservation but also generating financial benefits for the local community.

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

  
LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.

  
TSUYOSHI ANTHONY G. HORIBATA

  
MIGUEL LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE

  
NICOLAS ENCISO VIII

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2260**

---

Introduced by **HON. LUIS RAYMUND “LRAY” F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.,  
HON. MIGUEL LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE, HON. TSUYOSHI ANTHONY G. HORIBATA  
AND HON. NICOLAS ENCISO VIII**

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**AN ACT  
DECLARING BANGA CAVES IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF RAGAY, PROVINCE OF  
CAMARINES SUR AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS  
THEREFOR**

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

**SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as “*Banga Caves Ecotourism Act.*”

**SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – The 1987 Philippine Constitution mandates that the State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.

Accordingly, it is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote to promote an ecologically-sustainable and effective tourist industry that will enhance environmental preservation and support socio-economic development.

**SECTION 3. *The Banga Caves Ecotourism Site.*** – The Banga Caves in the Municipality of Ragay, Province of Camarines Sur is hereby declared as an ecotourism site. Its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

The DOT, in coordination with the concerned local government units as well as with the other concerned government agencies, shall prepare a tourism development plan for Banga Caves which shall be incorporated in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as “The Tourism Act of 2009”, and which shall also include the construction and maintenance of infrastructure and facilities in the area; Provided, That the development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the scenery and resources of the area.

**SECTION 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DOT, in consultation with the concerned local government units, the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA) and other agencies, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

**SECTION 5. *Appropriations.*** – The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department’s program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act and internally generated funds of the DOT.

**SECTION 6. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, rules, regulations, proclamations, executive orders or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

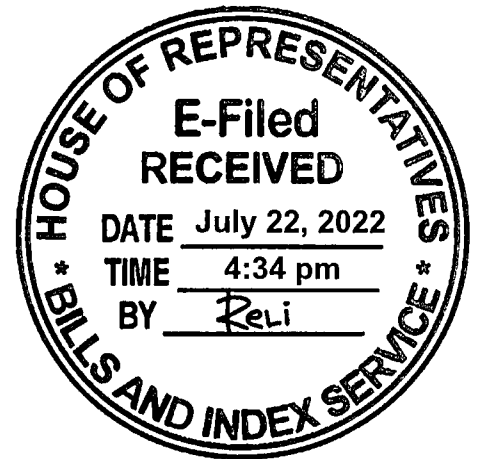
**SECTION 7. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2261



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Introduced by HON. LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.,  
HON. MIGUEL LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE, HON. TSUYOSHI ANTHONY G. HORIBATA  
AND HON. NICOLAS ENCISO VIII

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

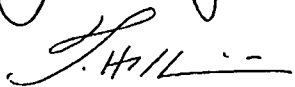
This measure proposes to declare the Calinigan Mountain Range in Camarines Sur as an Ecotourism Site.

The Calinigan Mountain Range (904 meters), is one of the two mountain ranges that envelope the province, which is located in the Partido area. It separates the plains of Lagonoy, San Jose, Goa, Tigaon and Sangay from Bicol Plains. The proposed area will include lowland and mountain forests covering Mts. Putianay, Tiis, Suguitan and Saddle Peak.

Ecotourism is about uniting conservation, communities, and sustainable travel. The declaration of the ecotourism site helps build environmental and cultural awareness and respect. It is aimed not only at conservation but also generating financial benefits for the local community.

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

  
LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.

  
TSUYOSHI ANTHONY G. HORIBATA

  
MIGUEL LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE

  
NICOLAS ENCISO VIII

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2261

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Introduced by HON. LUIS RAYMUND “LRAY” F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.,  
HON. MIGUEL LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE, HON. TSUYOSHI ANTHONY G. HORIBATA  
AND HON. NICOLAS ENCISO VIII

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AN ACT  
DECLARING CALINIGAN MOUNTAIN RANGE IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF  
LAGONUY, PRESENTACION AND GARCHITORENA, PROVINCE OF CAMARINES  
SUR AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

**SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as “*Calinigan Mountain Range Ecotourism Act.*”

**SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – The 1987 Philippine Constitution mandates that the State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.

Accordingly, it is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote to promote an ecologically-sustainable and effective tourist industry that will enhance environmental preservation and support socio-economic development.

**SECTION 3. *The Calinigan Mountain Range Ecotourism Site.*** – The Calinigan Mountain Range in the Municipalities of Lagonoy, Presentacion and Garchitorea, Province of Camarines Sur is hereby declared as an ecotourism site. Its development

shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

The DOT, in coordination with the concerned local government units as well as with the other concerned government agencies, shall prepare a tourism development plan for the Calinigan Mountain Range Ecotourism Site which shall be incorporated in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as "The Tourism Act of 2009", and which shall also include the construction and maintenance of infrastructure and facilities in the area; Provided, That the development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the scenery and resources of the area.

**SECTION 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DOT, in consultation with the concerned local government units, the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA) and other agencies, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

**SECTION 5. *Appropriations.*** – The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act and internally generated funds of the DOT.

**SECTION 6. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, rules, regulations, proclamations, executive orders or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

**SECTION 7. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*



Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2262



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Introduced by HON. LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.,  
HON. MIGUEL LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE, HON. TSUYOSHI ANTHONY G. HORIBATA  
AND HON. NICOLAS ENCISO VIII

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

This measure proposes to declare additional caves to be part of the Libmanan Caves Natural Park in the Municipality of Libmanan in Camarines Sur as an Ecotourism Site.

All caves in Sigamot and the nearby barangays of Bical and Odoc are proposed to be included in a bigger Libmanan Caves National Park. It is centered on the massive 2,856-meter-long Colapnitan Cave, the tenth longest cave in the Philippines. The park itself covers a total area of 19.4 hectares across the hilly farmlands of Libmanan.

Ecotourism is about uniting conservation, communities, and sustainable travel. The declaration of the ecotourism site helps build environmental and cultural awareness and respect. It is aimed not only at conservation but also generating financial benefits for the local community.

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

  
LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.

  
MIGUEL LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE

  
TSUYOSHI ANTHONY G. HORIBATA

  
NICOLAS ENCISO VIII

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2262

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Introduced by HON. LUIS RAYMUND “LRAY” F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.,  
HON. MIGUEL LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE, HON. TSUYOSHI ANTHONY G. HORIBATA  
AND HON. NICOLAS ENCISO VIII

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AN ACT  
DECLARING ADDITIONAL CAVES AND CAVE SYSTEMS AS PART OF THE  
LIBMANAN CAVES NATURAL PARK IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LIBMANAN,  
PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING  
FUNDS THEREFOR

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

**SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as “*Expanded Libmanan Caves Natural Park Ecotourism Act.*”

**SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – The 1987 Philippine Constitution mandates that the State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.

Accordingly, it is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote to promote an ecologically-sustainable and effective tourist industry that will enhance environmental preservation and support socio-economic development.

**SECTION 3. *The Expanded Libmanan Caves Ecotourism Site.*** – At least fifteen more caves in addition to the Libmanan Caves Natural Park in the Municipality of Libmanan,

Province of Camarines Sur is hereby declared as an ecotourism site. Its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

The DOT, in coordination with the concerned local government units as well as with the other concerned government agencies, shall prepare a tourism development plan for Expanded Libmanan Caves Natural Park which shall be incorporated in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as "The Tourism Act of 2009", and which shall also include the construction and maintenance of infrastructure and facilities in the area; Provided, That the development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the scenery and resources of the area.

**SECTION 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DOT, in consultation with the concerned local government units, the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA) and other agencies, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

**SECTION 5. *Appropriations.*** – The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act and internally generated funds of the DOT.

**SECTION 6. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, rules, regulations, proclamations, executive orders or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

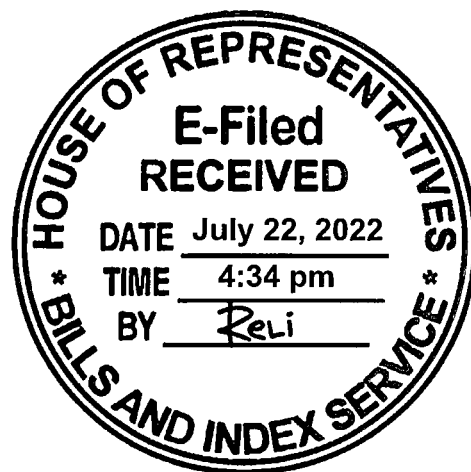
**SECTION 7. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2271



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Introduced by HON. LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR., HON. MIGUEL  
LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE, HON. TSUYOSHI ANTHONY G. HORIBATA AND HON.  
NICOLAS ENCISO VIII

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This measure proposes to declare the Pag-oring Caves in the Municipality of Libmanan in Camarines Sur as an Ecotourism Site.

There are at least six caves in Pag-oring, Libmanan near the Libmanan Caves Natural Park. On its own, the Pag-oring caves are a wonder and can be declared as a separate Ecotourism Site.

Ecotourism is about uniting conservation, communities, and sustainable travel. The declaration of the ecotourism site helps build environmental and cultural awareness and respect. It is aimed not only at conservation but also generating financial benefits for the local community.

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

  
LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.

  
MIGUEL LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE

  
TSUYOSHI ANTHONY G. HORIBATA

  
NICOLAS ENCISO VIII

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2271

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Introduced by HON. LUIS RAYMUND “LRAY” F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.,  
HON. MIGUEL LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE, HON. TSUYOSHI ANTHONY G. HORIBATA  
AND HON. NICOLAS ENCISO VIII

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AN ACT  
DECLARING PAG-ORING CAVES IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LIBMANAN,  
PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING  
FUNDS THEREFOR

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

**SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as “Pag-oring Caves Natural Park Ecotourism Act.”

**SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – The 1987 Philippine Constitution mandates that the State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.

Accordingly, it is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote to promote an ecologically-sustainable and effective tourist industry that will enhance environmental preservation and support socio-economic development.

**SECTION 3. *The Pag-oring Caves Ecotourism Site.*** – The Pag-oring Caves in the Municipality of Libmanan, Province of Camarines Sur is hereby declared as an ecotourism site. Its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT)

and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

The DOT, in coordination with the concerned local government units as well as with the other concerned government agencies, shall prepare a tourism development plan for the Pag-oring Caves Ecotourism Site which shall be incorporated in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as "The Tourism Act of 2009", and which shall also include the construction and maintenance of infrastructure and facilities in the area; Provided, That the development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the scenery and resources of the area.

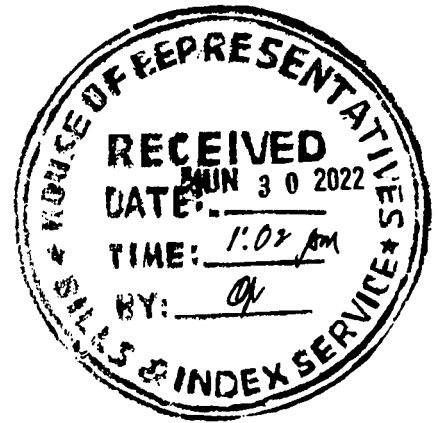
**SECTION 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DOT, in consultation with the concerned local government units, the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA) and other agencies, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

**SECTION 5. *Appropriations.*** – The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act and internally generated funds of the DOT.

**SECTION 6. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, rules, regulations, proclamations, executive orders or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

**SECTION 7. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*



Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 105

Introduced by Representative VINCENT FRANCO D. FRASCO

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to declare the Bagacay Point Lighthouse in the Municipality of Liloan, Province of Cebu, as a tourist destination of the Philippines.

Section 1, Article XII of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that the goals of the national economy are a more equitable distribution of opportunities, income, and wealth; a sustained increase in the amount of goods and services produced by the nation for the benefit of the people; and an expanding productivity as the key to raising the quality of life for all, especially the underprivileged.

Furthermore, Republic Act No. 9593 or the Tourism Act of 2009 declared tourism as an indispensable element of the national economy that shall spur socio-economic growth, investment and employment in the country.

Liloan is a first class municipality in the province of Cebu, with a total population of 153,197 residing in its 14 barangays, and a total land area of 5,210 hectares as per the 2020 Philippine National Census. On September 2020, a census was conducted by the Philippine Statistics Authority. It is home to a number of industries, such as livestock and vegetable farming, baking, ceramics, and manufacturing, among others. It is also home to some of the best delicacies in the Philippines, such as rosquillos and masi.

Notably, Liloan is home to several natural and man-made tourist attractions, particularly, the Bagacay Point Lighthouse, which the locals call as the *Parola sa Liloan*.

The Bagacay Point Lighthouse was erected under the administration of Governor William Howard Taft in 1904. The Lighthouse is 72 feet tall and gives light up to 17 nautical miles. It is an active lighthouse that served as a guide to sea vessels that pass through the Northeast portion of the Cebu Harbor since 1905, and has continued to do so for over a hundred years. The Bagacay Point Lighthouse is one of the few remaining lighthouses that show American architecture in the

1 country, and was declared a National Historical Marker last August 13, 2004. The lighthouse is  
2 the reason why Liloan was given the nickname, "The Light of the North."

3 In this light, the Bill was filed which declares the Bagacay Point Lighthouse as a tourism  
4 destination in the Philippines and a tourist spot in the Fifth District of the Province of Cebu.

5 The declaration of this lighthouse as a tourism destination will bring in the surge of tourists  
6 in the area, whether foreign or domestic, and will bring in significant economic gains in the  
7 province.

8 In view of the foregoing, approval of this Bill is earnestly requested.

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VINCENT FRANCO D. FRASCO



1  
2 Republic of the Philippines  
3 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
4 Constitution Hills, Quezon City  
5

6 **NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
7 First Regular Session  
8

9 **HOUSE BILL NO. 105**  
10

11 Introduced by Rep. Vincent Franco D. Frasco  
12  
13

14 **AN ACT**  
15 **DECLARING THE BAGACAY POINT LIGHTHOUSE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF**  
16 **LILOAN, PROVINCE OF CEBU, AS A TOURIST DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR**  
17 **ITS DEVELOPMENT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**  
18  
19

20 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress  
21 assembled:  
22  
23

24 Section 1. The Bagacay Point Lighthouse located in Barangay Catarman, Municipality of  
25 Liloan, Fifth District of the Province of Cebu, is hereby declared as tourist destination.  
26

27 As such, the development of this tourist spot shall be prioritized by the Department of  
28 Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of tourist  
29 destinations.  
30

31 Section 2. Within one (1) year from the approval of this Act, the DOT, in coordination with  
32 the concerned local government units and agencies of the government, shall prepare a tourism  
33 development plan involving the construction, installation, and maintenance of appropriate  
34 facilities that enhance tourism in the area: Provided, That the development plan shall ensure the  
35 preservation and conservation of the natural beauty and resources of the area: Provided, further,  
36 That any activities and developments to be carried out in the area must conform with the concept  
37 of ecotourism as provided in the national ecotourism strategy jointly issued by the Department of  
38 Environment and Natural Resources and the DOT.  
39

40 Section 3. The DOT and its attached agencies shall take immediate steps to implement the  
41 tourism development plan that suits the natural characteristics of the Bagacay Point Lighthouse  
42 and shall incorporate the same in its tourism development and program for the ensuing calendar  
43 year. It shall also include the Bagacay Point Lighthouse in all its national, regional, and local  
44 promotion programs.

1           Section 4. The Secretary of Tourism shall include in the DOT's program the  
2 implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General  
3 Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.

4  
5           Section 5. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Tourism,  
6 in consultation with the Municipality of Liloan, shall promulgate the necessary rules and  
7 regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

8  
9           Section 6. All laws, regulations, proclamations, executive orders, or parts thereof,  
10 inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended accordingly.

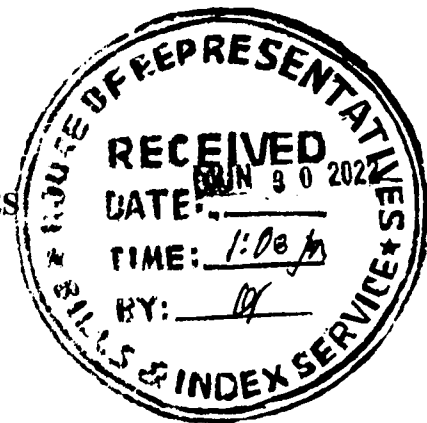
11  
12           Section 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official  
13 Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

14  
15 Approved,

1  
2 Republic of the Philippines  
3 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
4 Constitution Hills, Quezon City

5  
6 **NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
7 First Regular Session

8  
9 **HOUSE BILL NO. 106**



10  
11  
12 Introduced by Representative VINCENT FRANCO D. FRASCO  
13

14  
15  
16 **EXPLANATORY NOTE**  
17

18  
19 This bill seeks to declare the Santiago Public Beach in the Municipality of San Francisco,  
20 Province of Cebu, as a tourist destination of the Philippines.  
21

22 Section 1, Article XII of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that the goals of the  
23 national economy are a more equitable distribution of opportunities, income, and wealth; a  
24 sustained increase in the amount of goods and services produced by the nation for the benefit of  
25 the people; and an expanding productivity as the key to raising the quality of life for all, especially  
26 the underprivileged.  
27

28 Furthermore, Republic Act No. 9593 or the Tourism Act of 2009 declared tourism as an  
29 indispensable element of the national economy that shall spur socio-economic growth, investment  
30 and employment in the country.

31 San Francisco is a third class municipality in the province of Cebu. According to the 2020  
32 Philippine National Census, it has a population of 59,236 people. It is one of the municipalities  
33 that comprise the Camotes Islands. It is composed of 15 barangays, including Santiago. The waters  
34 surrounding the islands support a very rich and diverse fishery resource, which includes tilapia,  
35 carp, milkfish, and catfish, among others. Many of the local residents depend on fishing as a  
36 resource for their subsistence and livelihood. This is the second half of farming among locals.

37 Tourism is another major source of income, especially among hotels, resorts and tourism  
38 business entities. Camotes can provide tourists and visitors a refreshing and relaxing environment  
39 for those who seek silence and solitude.

40 Santiago Bay is located in the southwestern part of the island. The wide and deep white  
41 sand beach is situated directly in front of the town of Santiago. This beach is owned by the local  
42 government and is a favorite rendezvous for locals and visitors. With the fishing communities  
43 within the area, it can boost tourism and can provide opportunities to the fisherfolk.

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In this light, the Bill was filed which declares the Santiago Public Beach as a tourism destination/tourist spot in the Fifth District of the Province of Cebu. The declaration of this beach as a tourism destination will bring in the surge of tourists in the area, whether foreign or domestic, and will bring in significant economic gains in the province.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this Bill is earnestly requested.



**VINCENT FRANCO D. FRASCO**

1  
2 Republic of the Philippines  
3 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
4 Constitution Hills, Quezon City  
5

6 **NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
7 First Regular Session  
8

9 **HOUSE BILL NO. 106**  
10

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11 Introduced by Rep. Vincent Franco D. Frasco  
12

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13 **AN ACT**  
14 **DECLARING SANTIAGO PUBLIC BEACH IN THE CAMOTES ISLANDS,**  
15 **MUNICIPALITY OF SAN FRANCISCO, PROVINCE OF CEBU, AS A TOURIST**  
16 **DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT, AND APPROPRIATING**  
17 **FUNDS THEREFOR**  
18  
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21 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress  
22 assembled:  
23  
24

25 Section 1. The Santiago Public Beach located in Barangay Santiago, Municipality of San  
26 Francisco, Fifth District of the Province of Cebu, is hereby declared as tourist destination.  
27

28 As such, the development of this tourist spot shall be prioritized by the Department of  
29 Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of tourist  
30 destinations.  
31

32 Section 2. Within one (1) year from the approval of this Act, the DOT, in coordination with  
33 the concerned local government units and agencies of the government, shall prepare a tourism  
34 development plan involving the construction, installation, and maintenance of appropriate  
35 facilities that enhance tourism in the area: Provided, That the development plan shall ensure the  
36 preservation and conservation of the natural beauty and resources of the area: Provided, further,  
37 That any activities and developments to be carried out in the area must conform with the concept  
38 of ecotourism as provided in the national ecotourism strategy jointly issued by the Department of  
39 Environment and Natural Resources and the DOT.  
40

41 Section 3. The DOT and its attached agencies shall take immediate steps to implement the  
42 tourism development plan that suits the natural characteristics of the Santiago Public Beach and  
43 shall incorporate the same in its tourism development and program for the ensuing calendar year.  
44 It shall also include the Santiago Public Beach in all its national, regional, and local promotion  
45 programs.

1           Section 4. The Secretary of Tourism shall include in the DOT's program the  
2 implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General  
3 Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.

4  
5           Section 5. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Tourism,  
6 in consultation with the Municipality of San Francisco, shall promulgate the necessary rules and  
7 regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

8  
9           Section 6. All laws, regulations, proclamations, executive orders, or parts thereof,  
10 inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended accordingly.

11  
12           Section 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official  
13 Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

14  
15 Approved,



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2233**

---

**Introduced by HON. CHRISTOPHERSON “COCO” M. YAP**

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#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The Twin Islands of San Pedro and San Pablo are two of Southern Leyte’s premier island tourism destinations. Their crystal-clear waters, white pebble beach, and rich marine ecosystem is only thirty (30) minutes away from the mainland making them attractive to tourist who are in for some quick island get-away.

In the latest Census on Population and Housing by the Philippine Statistics Authority, the Municipality of Hinunangan has a population of twenty-nine thousand, one hundred forty-nine – with the Island of San Pablo having a population of 445 and the Island of San Pedro having 449.

With agriculture and fisheries as these people’s primary source of income, development of Hinunangan’s tourism industry provided a significant boost in the local economy.

The declaration of The Twin Island of San Pablo and San Pedro as eco-tourism zone would pave the way for its development into a premier community participatory and sustainable eco-tourism destination equipped with facilities and amenities that could

help them reach their full potential. More importantly, it would create more opportunities for local Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises and jobs for the labor force.


\*\*\*

Community participatory tourism programs with sustainability at its core spurred socio-economic development in the tourism industry. Much of the gains of the local tourism initiatives has been rolled back by the COVID-19 pandemic forcing tourism related businesses cut their workforce or, worse, halt business operation. With the easing of travel restrictions, the tourism sector is poised for a comeback.

In Southern Leyte, recovery of our tourism sector faced a major setback by the devastation brought by typhoon Odette which destroyed what little structure they had in place. Apart from that, it also caused lost wages and unemployment to those who relied on the tourism industry.

This bill, along with all the other bills of a similar subject, from this representation, seeks to help jumpstart economic recovery in the Second District of Southern Leyte by providing institutional support from the national government to its tourism industry.

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

  
CHRISTOPHERSON "COCO" M. YAP  
Representative, Second District of Southern Leyte





Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2233**

---

**Introduced by HON. CHRISTOPHERSON “COCO” M. YAP**

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**AN ACT**  
**DECLARING THE TWIN ISLANDS OF SAN PEDRO AND SAN PABLO IN THE**  
**MUNICIPALITY OF HINUNANGAN, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE AN**  
**ECOTOURISM ZONE, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND**  
**APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The Twin Islands of San Pedro and San Pablo in the Municipality  
2 of Hinunangan Province of Southern Leyte is hereby declared an  
3 ecotourism zone. As such, its development shall be prioritized by  
4 the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and  
5 regulations governing the development of ecotourism zones.  
6
- 7 **SEC. 2.** Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the DOT, in  
8 coordination with the concerned local government units and  
9 agencies of the government, shall prepare a joint tourism  
10 development plan for both islands involving the construction,  
11 installation and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and  
12 infrastructure as shall encourage tourism in the area: *Provided,*

13 That said development plan shall be environmentally sound,  
14 community participatory, and ensure the preservation and  
15 conservation of the natural beauty and resources of the area.

16

17 **SEC. 3.** The DOT shall take immediate steps to implement the development  
18 plan that will suit the natural characteristics of the Twin Islands of  
19 San Pedro and San Pablo, and shall incorporate the same in the  
20 overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to  
21 Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as “The Tourism Act of  
22 2009.” It shall also include the Twin Islands of San Pedro and San  
23 Pablo in all its national, regional, and local promotion programs.

24

25 **SEC. 4.** The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department’s  
26 program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall  
27 be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and from  
28 internally generated funds of the DOT.

29

30 **SEC. 5.** Within sixty (60) days from effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of  
31 the DOT shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulation for  
32 the proper implementation of this Act.

33

34 **SEC. 6.** All laws, rules, regulations, proclamations, executive orders or  
35 parts thereof inconsistent with this Act, are hereby amended  
36 accordingly.

37

38 **SEC. 7.** This Act shall take effect 15 days after its publication in the Official  
39 Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2237



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Introduced by HON. CHRISTOPHERSON “COCO” M. YAP

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

Located in a small islet in the middle of pristine waters of Sogod Bay, Tagbak Marine Park, in the Municipality of Liloan, Southern Leyte, is one of the most sought-after tourist destinations in the province for its breathtaking scenery and turquoise waters – home to a coral garden and a various species of flora and fauna.

The declaration of Tagbak Marine Park as eco-tourism zone would pave the way for its development into a premier community participatory and sustainable eco-tourism destination equipped with facilities and amenities that could help it reach its full potential. It would create more job opportunities to the locals, thereby contributing to the economic recovery of the locality.

\*\*\*

Community participatory tourism programs with sustainability at its core spurred socio-economic development in the tourism industry. Much of the gains of the local tourism initiatives has been rolled back by the COVID-19 pandemic forcing tourism related

businesses cut their workforce or, worse, halt business operation. With the easing of travel restrictions, the tourism sector is poised for a comeback.

In Southern Leyte, recovery of our tourism sector faced a major setback by the devastation brought by typhoon Odette which destroyed what little structure they had in place. Apart from that, it also caused lost wages and unemployment to those who relied on the tourism industry.

This bill, along with all the other bills of a similar subject, from this representation, seeks to help jumpstart economic recovery in the Second District of Southern Leyte by providing institutional support from the national government to its tourism industry.

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

  
CHRISTOPHERSON "COCO" M. YAP

Representative, Second District of Southern Leyte



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2237**

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**Introduced by HON. CHRISTOPHERSON “COCO” M. YAP**

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**AN ACT**  
**DECLARING THE TAGBAK MARINE PARK IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF**  
**LILLOAN, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE AN ECOTOURISM ZONE,**  
**PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS**  
**THEREFOR**

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

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The Tagbak Marine Park in the Municipality of Liloan, Province  
2 of Southern Leyte is hereby declared an eco-tourism zone. As such,  
3 its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism  
4 (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing the  
5 development of ecotourism zones.  
6
- 7 **SEC. 2.** Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the DOT, in  
8 coordination with the concerned local government units and  
9 agencies of the government, shall prepare a tourism development  
10 plan involving the construction, installation and maintenance of  
11 such appropriate facilities and infrastructure as shall encourage  
12 tourism in the area: *Provided*, That said development plan shall be

13 environmentally sound, community participatory, and ensure the  
14 preservation and conservation of the natural beauty and resources  
15 of the area.

16

17 **SEC. 3.** The DOT shall take immediate steps to implement the development  
18 plan that will suit the natural characteristics of Tagbak Marine  
19 Park, and shall incorporate the same in the overall National  
20 Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic Act No.  
21 9593, otherwise known as “The Tourism Act of 2009.”. It shall  
22 also include Takbak Marine Park in all its national, regional, and  
23 local promotion programs.

24

25 **SEC. 4.** The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department’s  
26 program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall  
27 be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and from  
28 internally generated funds of the DOT.

29

30 **SEC. 5.** Within sixty (60) days from effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of  
31 the DOT shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulation for  
32 the proper implementation of this Act.

33

34 **SEC. 6.** All laws, rules, regulations, proclamations, executive orders or  
35 parts thereof inconsistent with this Act, are hereby amended  
36 accordingly.

37

38 **SEC. 7.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in  
39 the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2239**



---

**Introduced by HON. CHRISTOPHERSON "COCO" M. YAP**

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#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to declare Barangay Napantao, in the Municipality of San Francisco, Province of Southern Leyte, as an ecotourism zone.

Barangay Napantao is home to the oldest Marine Protected Area in Sogod Bay. The Napantao Fish Sanctuary, which was established in 1996, covers an area of about 5 hectares. It is a world-class diving site with a vibrant marine ecosystem. Accordingly, it has twice the amount of hard coral cover than the Philippines average.

The growth of tourism in the area have not reached its full potential due to lack of infrastructure facilities that would make it convenient for tourist to visit, lack of skilled tour guides, and lack of promotion.

The declaration of Barangay Napantao as eco-tourism zone would transform it into a community participatory and sustainable eco-tourism destination equipped with facilities and amenities that could help attract more tourists to the area. Furthermore, it

will create more opportunities for local Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises and jobs for the labor force.

\* \* \*

Community participatory tourism programs with sustainability at its core spurred socio-economic development in the tourism industry. Much of the gains of the local tourism initiatives has been rolled back by the COVID-19 pandemic forcing tourism related businesses cut their workforce or, worse, halt business operation. With the easing of travel restrictions, the tourism sector is poised for a comeback.

In Southern Leyte, recovery of our tourism sector faced a major setback by the devastation brought by typhoon Odette which destroyed what little structure they had in place. Apart from that, it also caused lost wages and unemployment to those who relied on the tourism industry.

This bill, along with all the other bills of a similar subject, from this representation, seeks to help jumpstart economic recovery in the Second District of Southern Leyte by providing institutional support from the national government to its tourism industry.

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

  
CHRISTOPHERSON "COCO" M. YAP  
Representative, Second District of Southern Leyte





Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2239**

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**Introduced by HON. CHRISTOPHERSON “COCO” M. YAP**

---

**AN ACT**  
**DECLARING BARANGAY NAPANTAO IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN FRANCISCO, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE AN ECOTOURISM ZONE, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

- 1 **SECTION 1.**       Barangay Napantao of in the Municipality of San Francisco,  
2                       Province of Southern Leyte is hereby declared an ecotourism zone.  
3                       As such, its development shall be prioritized by the Department of  
4                       Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing the  
5                       development of ecotourism zones.  
6
- 7 **SEC. 2.**            Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the DOT, in  
8                       coordination with the concerned local government units and  
9                       agencies of the government, shall prepare a tourism development  
10                      plan for Barangay Napantao involving the construction,  
11                      installation and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and  
12                      infrastructure as shall encourage tourism in the area: *Provided,*

13 That said development plan shall be environmentally sound,  
14 community participatory, and ensure the preservation and  
15 conservation of the natural beauty and resources of the area.

16

17 **SEC. 3.** The DOT shall take immediate steps to implement the development  
18 plan that will suit the natural characteristics of Barangay  
19 Napantao, and shall incorporate the same in the overall National  
20 Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic Act No.  
21 9593, otherwise known as “The Tourism Act of 2009.” It shall  
22 also include Barangay Napantao in all its national, regional, and  
23 local promotion programs.

24

25 **SEC 4.** The DOT, in coordination with the Municipality of San Francisco,  
26 and other concerned agencies of the government, shall identify  
27 well-defined geographic areas within Barangay Napantao  
28 Ecotourism Zone and ensure the integrated development of these  
29 areas for the optimum utilization of natural assets and attractions,  
30 as well as the preservation of their historic significance.

31

32 **SEC. 5.** The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department’s  
33 program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall  
34 be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and from  
35 internally generated funds of the DOT.

36

37 **SEC. 6.** Within sixty (60) days from effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of  
38 the DOT shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulation for  
39 the proper implementation of this Act.

40

41 **SEC. 7.** All laws, rules, regulations, proclamations, executive orders or  
42 parts thereof inconsistent with this Act, are hereby amended  
43 accordingly.

44

45 SEC. 8. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in  
46 the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City  
NINETEENTH CONGRESS  
First regular Session  
**HOUSE BILL NO. 1256**



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**Introduced by Representative Divina Grace C. Yu**  
1<sup>st</sup> District, Zamboanga del Sur

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#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to declare Baculan Falls as an ecotourism site in the Municipality of Midsalip, Province of Zamboanga del Sur.

Baculan Falls is located in Barangay Golictop, Midsalip, Zamboanga del Sur. The falls has an approximate height of 12 meters. The unique formation of landslides and the thorough water drops make Baculan Falls an exceptional waterfall. The vegetation of the immediate surroundings is relatively intact with forest trees.

With the proposal to develop the Baculan Falls into an ecotourism site, we hope to enhance its aesthetic value and generate economic growth by providing employment opportunities through tourism activities among the residents of Barangay Golictop.

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

  
DIVINA GRACE C. YU

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS  
First regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1256

---

**Introduced by Representative Divina Grace C. Yu**  
1<sup>st</sup> District, Zamboanga del Sur

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**AN ACT DECLARING BACULAN FALLS IN BARANGAY GOLICTOP, MUNICIPALITY OF MIDSALIP, PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR AS ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

Section 1. *Short Title* - This Act shall be known as the "Baculan Falls Ecotourism Act".

Section 2. *State Policy* -It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote sustainable tourism industry. Towards this end, the state shall rationalize all efforts pertaining to environmental protection and make the tourism industry a major source of livelihood and an avenue for the generation of employment. Henceforth, aggressive measures seeking to restore the country's share in the global tourism market shall be consistent with the preservation of the existing ecosystem and natural environment.

Section 3. *Declaration of Policy* — Pursuant to the declared policy of the State, the Baculan Falls in the Municipality of Midsalip, Province of Zamboanga del Sur is hereby declared as an ecotourism site.

Section 4. *Ecotourism Master Plan* — The Provincial Government of Zamboanga del Sur, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the Department of Tourism shall jointly prepare an EcoTourism Master Plan for the Baculan Falls in the Municipality of Midsalip and promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to be implemented by the local government in coordination with concerned government agencies.

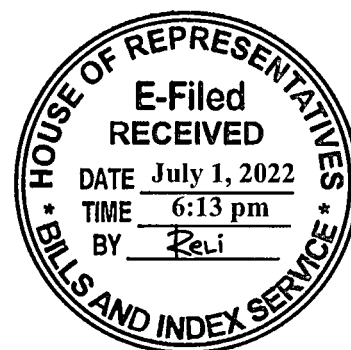
Section 5. *Appropriations* — The Department of Tourism shall include in the Department's programs the amount necessary for the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

Section 6. *Repealing Clause*. — All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, rules or regulations, and issuance contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act shall be deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 7. *Effectivity Clause*. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of national circulation.

Approved,

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



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

House Bill No. 964

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill was filed during the 18<sup>th</sup> Congress and was approved by the House of Representatives.

The Cagayan de Oro River or simply called the "Cagayan River" by the Kagay-anons, transects through the city of Cagayan de Oro. Its headwaters are located in North Cotabato, hundreds of kilometers away from the city. It has tributaries from the province of Bukidnon and Lanao del Sur – all joining to form one great body of water that winds its way to the city's Macabalan Bay.

Aside from the river's tributaries, there are many small streams and waterfalls along its course. The vast land areas on both sides of the Cagayan de Oro River are composed of hills, valleys, river terraces, caves, limestone cliffs, islets and forests. These areas hold rich potential archeological materials that have yet to be uncovered and are the keys to unlocking the mystery of the ancient Kagay-anons that once lived along the river.

This river and its environs combined to form a spectacular landscape. It is important that steps will be taken for its conservation and protection for the future generations of Kagay-anons.

*A Heritage Cultural River*

The Cagayan de Oro River is a prime cultural resource of the City of Cagayan de Oro. Since time immemorial, the river's life giving waters has nourished and sustained the people that lived along its banks. Through the centuries, this river has helped developed even the intangible compounds of the people aside from the tangible identity in a natural environment.

*Topography*

Cagayan de Oro City is characterized by a narrow coastal plain along the Macabalan Bay and by highland areas separated by steeply inclined escarpments. The lowland is relatively flat with an elevation of less than ten meters above the main sea level. Highlands bound the City in the south from east to west. These consist of plateaus, terraces, hills, mountains, canyons and gorges. Creeks and rivers traverse and bound the city and drain to Macabalan Bay. There are seven rivers of the City – Iponan River, Biga-an River, Umalag River, Agusan River, Alae River and the main river which is the longest that transects and serves as the political division of the city, the Cagayan de Oro River. The river's headwaters are located in Pikit, North Cotabato and there are numerous tributaries from the adjoining provinces of Bukidnon and Lanao del Sur (Cagayan de Oro River Masterplan, 1998).

*Archaeological Value*

Cagayan de Oro City plays a vital role in the history of Misamis Oriental Province and in the archaeology of the Philippines in general (Neri 2004; Bautista, 1992). People were

already living in this land that is located in the northern coast of Mindanao long before the coming of Islam and of the Spaniards.

The early Recollect missionaries arrived in Cagayan de Oro in 1622 particularly in a settlement called the Himologan fortress. According to accounts, Himologan was situated in the interior part of Cagayan southward from the main delta of the Cagayan River (Demetrio, 1995). The present area of Cagayan de Oro City is considered as the second settlement. It was chosen by the Recollect missionaries in 1622 for Datu Salansang, the chief of the Cagaiang (Cagayan) territory and his people because of an abundant water supply and its ideal location. This new settlement by the river estuary was then known as Cagaiang (Lao, 1995).

The ancient people of Cagayan de Oro lived along the river. Since 1970, there have been several archaeological explorations and excavations done by several teams of archaeologists in areas near the river. Foremost of these sites is the controversial Huluga Complex which is composed of an Open Site (National Museum Code X-91-Q) and cave sites (National Museum Code X-91-R). The sites are situated in the eastern bank of the Cagayan River which is 8.5 km. south of the poblacion area. Four teams have conducted explorations and excavations in Huluga.

The fourth team was composed of archaeologists from the National Museum and from the Archaeological Studies Program of the University of the Philippines did an intensive archaeological explorations and excavations in several sites along the banks of Cagayan River in October and November 2004. A total of 2,720 artifacts were recovered from the sites.

In their findings (Neri, et. al. 2007), the team reported that there is a high potential for very ancient human presence along the river, may be even older than 50,000 years ago based on the surface finds of andesite stone tools. That there was a group of people that lived within the present city that practical secondary jar burial around 1,500 years ago or more. Fragments of burial jars and sacks of human bones were found on a rock shelter. There were habitation areas in the open, next to the river and that the people there used obsidian for tools. Later, the people exchanged goods for tradeware ceramics from Mainland Asia. At the time of arrival of the Spaniards, there was already one thriving population center along the Cagayan River.

The archaeological findings helped established the archaeological significance of the areas along the Cagayan River. It clearly shows that the ancient Kagay-anons settled along the riverbanks as far back as 50,000 years or more.

### *Historical Value*

In Bayanga, a riverside barangay of Cagayan de Oro is a National Historical Institute marker that commemorates the June 4, 1900 Battle of Macahambus Hill. The Kagay-anons who had a small fort on a hill along the Cagayan River, defeated and killed several American soldiers that tried several times to seize it. This historic battled marked the first Filipino victory in the entire Philippine-American War in this country. The Battle of Macahambus Hill preceded the Battle of Pulang Lupa in Marinduque and the Balangiga Massacre of Samar.

### *Cultural Value*

Humans generally modify the landscapes in which they live. They attach names, myths and affective value to the features of the territory they inhabit (Newcombe, 1979).

The name "Cagayan" is taken from a proto – Austronesian word, "Carayan" which means river. The town started as a riverine settlement that was the same as the other prehispanic villages around the country. Local literature is replete with many enchanting tales, legends and myths of the Kagay-anons and their river. The legend of Cagayan de Oro is

prehispanic tale about the original inhabitants of the city that lived by the great river. The myth about the giant gold fish called the Oro fish that lives under the river persists to this day (Demetrio, F. 1975). The great Manobo epic "Ulangingen" that is usually chanted for three nights included Cagayan river as part of the journey of the Manobos who were in search for the gift of immortality. All these show the deep affinity of the Kagay-anon to his river.

### *Ecological Value*

The areas along the Cagayan River consist of a city forest zone that is over 2,500 hectares. There are also a network of caves, wetlands, flatlands, hills, valleys, limestone cliffs, terraces, streams, waterfalls and river islets. The high biodiversity of the river and the land ranged from different varieties of habitats, rich flora and fauna that included rare species of reptiles and tarsiers.

The fishes of the river are part of the staple diet of the people like the hipon or goby (sicyopterus, extraneous, chonopous ocellaries), balanak (castraeus goldiei) dalapakan (rhyacichtys aspro) valamugel shehli), kasili (ophisternon Bengalese) and the prized catch of the river, the pigok (mesopristes cansellatus).

The river system provides a natural drainage system. It has its own watershed area from which runoff finds its way to the bay. The presence of many wetlands helped serve as impoundment basins in case of river outflows (Cagayan de Oro River Masterplan. 1998).

### *Economic Value*

The Cagayan River is now known as the "Whitewater Rafting Capital of the Philippines." It is an important destination for adventure tourism where aside from whitewater rafting, tubing and kayaking, tourists can go rappelling in the limestone cliffs, explore the numerous caves or do canopy walk and zip lining or take nature treks in the forest zone.

These tourism activities have provided jobs and sources of livelihood for many people who live along the City's riverside barangays. The Cagayan River is indeed the top tourist attraction of the city not only for the water and adventure sports that it provides but also for the pristine natural beauty of the land around it. It continues to give the biggest tourism revenues to the City Government.

### *Conclusion*

The Cagayan de Oro River is culturally significant in terms of historical, archaeological, cultural, ecological and economic values. This is the only class A city river in the Philippines that remains unpolluted and continually draws in tourists all year round.

Archaeologically, it has been established that the early Kagay-anon lived along the banks of the river 50,000 years ago or more, used obsidian for tools and practiced secondary jar burials. Historically, there is the prestigious National Historical Institute marker located in Barangay Bayanga that commemorates the Battle of Macahambus Hill which took place besides the Cagayan River. It is considered the first Filipino victory in the Philippine – American War in the entire country. Ecologically, a rich ecosystem with a variety of habitats and high biodiversity is found both in the river and the surrounding lands. Culturally, the many legends, myths and tales about the Cagayan River show the deep affinity of the Kagay-anon to his river. Today, the Cagayan de Oro River is the number one source of tourism revenues of the City Government. Many people have reaped economic benefits through the various eco-tourism activities from it.



It is therefore important that the Cagayan de Oro River be declared officially as a Heritage Cultural River by an Act of Congress so it can be protected from the threats of pollution, industrialization and other environmentally destructive activities of man. It is also equally important that the areas near the river be declared as protected heritage zones in order to help preserve the several historical and archaeological sites and ecosystem of the land. The Cagayan de Oro River has all the significant cultural values worthy of an extensive natural heritage conservation program that will promote awareness and set guidelines to protect the river and its environs. By this, the future generations of Kagay-anons are ensured that their river will continue to sustain and enriched their lives just as it did to their ancestors thousands of years ago.

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

  
RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

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House Bill No. 964

AN ACT

**DECLARING CAGAYAN DE ORO RIVER AND ITS IMMEDIATE ENVIRONS LOCATED IN CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL A CULTURAL HERITAGE ZONE**

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

**SECTION 1.** This Act shall be known as the "Cagayan de Oro River Cultural Heritage Zone Act".

**SEC 2.** It is the policy of the State to administer its heritage and natural resources in a spirit of stewardship for the inspiration and benefit of the present and future generations. Towards this end, it shall be the duty of the State to conserve the natural diversity and integrity of the Cagayan de Oro River as well as its sites of historical and cultural importance.

**SEC 3.** The Cagayan de Oro River and its immediate environs located in Cagayan de Oro City, Province of Misamis Oriental is hereby declared a cultural heritage zone. As such, it shall be accorded priority development by the Department of Tourism (DOT), in coordination with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), the City Government of Cagayan de Oro, and other concerned agencies of the government, and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the conservation and preservation of cultural heritage zones.

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

**SEC 4.** Any activity that pollutes, destroys or adversely affects the archaeological, historical, cultural, ecological, and economic values of the Cagayan de Oro River and its immediate environs is prohibited.

**SEC 5.** Any person or entity which shall cause destruction to the archaeological, historical, cultural, ecological, and economic values of the Cagayan de Oro River and its premises shall suffer a fine of not less than One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) but not more than Five million pesos (P5,000,000.00) and an imprisonment of one (1) to five (5) years.

**SEC 6.** The DOT.in coordination with the DENR, the NCCA, the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA), the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP), the National Museum of the Philippines (NMP), the City Government of Cagayan de Oro, and other concerned agencies of the government, shall immediately prepare the development plan involving the conservation, preservation, and development of Cagayan de Oro River Cultural Heritage Zone: Provided, That the development plans shall ensure the conservation and preservation of the Cagayan de Oro River and its environs and protect it from threats of pollution, industrialization, and other environmentally destructive human activities.

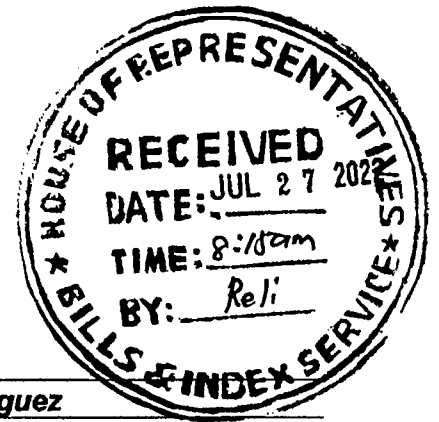
**SEC 7.** The DENR shall conduct and execute a survey to determine the actual metes and bounds of the Cagayan de Oro River Cultural Heritage Zone.

**SEC 8.** Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOT, in coordination with the DENR, the TIEZA, the NCCA, the NHCP, the NMP, the City Government of Cagayan de Oro, and other concerned agencies of the government shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

**SEC 9.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

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



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

House Bill No. 2448

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare the Huluga Caves 1 & 2 in Barangay Indahag, Cagayan de Oro City as an ecotourism sites.

Huluga Caves 1 & 2 are two of the most visited tourist destinations in Cagayan de Oro City. The two caves are located about 7 kilometers south of the city proper. The site where the Huluga Caves 1 & 2 is a prehistoric site in the Philippines and among the numerous artifacts uncovered at Huluga were human skeletal remains, fragments of which were eventually sent to the Scripps Institution of Oceanography of the University of California at San Diego near La Jolla, California where amino acid racemization dating technique dated it as belonging to 350 AD.

Declaring the Huluga Caves 1 & 2 as ecotourism sites will result in the development and improvement of the tourist site. It will also help the development of the local community.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this measure is earnestly requested.

  
RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS** )  
**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES** )  
*First Regular Session* )

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

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*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

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House Bill No. 2448

**AN ACT**

**DECLARING HULUGA CAVES 1 & 2 IN BARANGAY INDAHAG, CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AS ECOTOURISM SITES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**SECTION 1.** Huluga Caves 1 & 2 Ecotourism Sites. – The Huluga Caves 1 & 2 located in Barangay Indahag, Cagayan de Oro City is hereby declared an ecotourism site.

**Sec. 2.** Huluga Caves 1 & 2 Ecotourism Master Plan. - Within one hundred twenty (120) days from the approval of this Act, the Department of Tourism (DOT) and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) shall develop an ecotourism a master plan subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites. Said masterplan shall be incorporated in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593. otherwise known as “The Tourism Act of 2009” and shall also include the construction and maintenance of infrastructure and facilities in the area: Provided, That the development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the scenery and resources of the area.

**Sec. 3.** Appropriations. - The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.

**Sec. 4.** Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

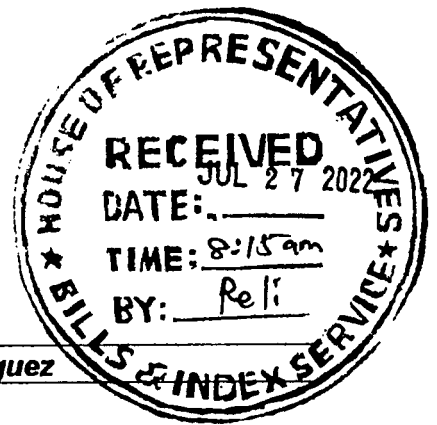
**Sec. 5.** Repealing Clause. - All laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, presidential decrees and other issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

**Sec. 7.** Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



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*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

House Bill No. 2449

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to declare the Kalapat Cave in Barangay Dansolihon, Cagayan de Oro City as an ecotourism site.

Kalapat Cave is one of the tourist destinations in Cagayan de Oro City. Declaring the Kalapat Cave an ecotourism site will result in the development and improvement of the tourist site. It will also help the development of the local community.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this measure is earnestly requested.

  
RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

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House Bill No. 2449

**AN ACT  
DECLARING KALAPAT CAVE IN BARANGAY DANSOLIHON, CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY  
AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. Kalapat Cave Ecotourism Site. – The Kalapat Cave located in Barangay Dansolihon, Cagayan de Oro City is hereby declared an ecotourism site.

Sec. 2. Kalapat Cave Ecotourism Master Plan. - Within one hundred twenty (120) days from the approval of this Act, the Department of Tourism (DOT) and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) shall develop an ecotourism a master plan subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites. Said masterplan shall be incorporated in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as "The Tourism Act of 2009" and shall also include the construction and maintenance of infrastructure and facilities in the area: Provided, That the development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the scenery and resources of the area.

Sec. 3. Appropriations. - The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.

Sec. 4. Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

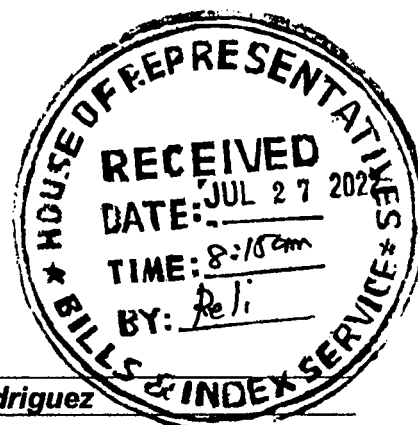
Sec. 5. Repealing Clause. - All laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, presidential decrees and other issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

Sec. 7. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

House Bill No. 2450

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare the Kweba de Oro in Barangay Bayanga, Cagayan de Oro City as an ecotourism site.

Kweba de Oro is one of the most visited tourist destinations in Cagayan de Oro City. The cave requires a 40meter descent to be able to get in. deep abseil to get in. The cave is a river cave and there are areas inside the cave where the water almost reaches the ceiling. The exit of the cave is a passage in a cave that is submerged under water. Visitors have said that it is necessary to dive a short distance to reach the exit.

Declaring the Kweba de Oro an ecotourism site will result in the development and improvement of the tourist site. It will also help the development of the local community.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this measure is earnestly requested.

  
RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ



**NINETEENTH CONGRESS** )  
**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES** )  
*First Regular Session* )

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

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***Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez***

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**House Bill No. 2450**

**AN ACT**

**DECLARING KWEBA DE ORO IN BARANGAY BAYANGA, CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**SECTION 1.** Kweba de Oro Ecotourism Site. – The Kweba de Oro located in Barangay Bayanga, Cagayan de Oro City is hereby declared an ecotourism site.

**Sec. 2.** Kweba de Oro Ecotourism Master Plan. - Within one hundred twenty (120) days from the approval of this Act, the Department of Tourism (DOT) and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) shall develop an ecotourism a master plan subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites. Said masterplan shall be incorporated in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as “The Tourism Act of 2009” and shall also include the construction and maintenance of infrastructure and facilities in the area: Provided, That the development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the scenery and resources of the area.

**Sec. 3.** Appropriations. - The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department’s program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.

**Sec. 4.** Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

**Sec. 5.** Repealing Clause. - All laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, presidential decrees and other issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

**Sec. 7.** Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

House Bill No. 2451

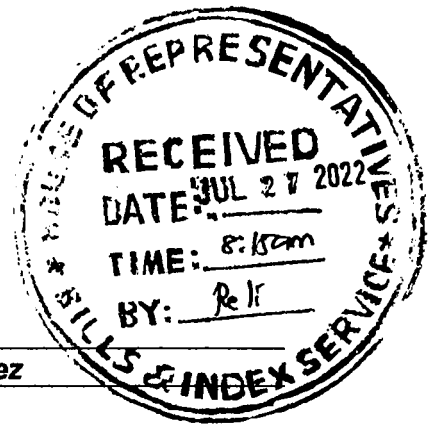
EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare the Langag Cave in Barangay Dansolihon, Cagayan de Oro City as an ecotourism site.

Langag Cave is one of the tourist destinations in Cagayan de Oro City. Declaring the Langag Cave an ecotourism site will result in the development and improvement of the tourist site. It will also help the development of the local community.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this measure is earnestly requested.

  
RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ



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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

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House Bill No. **2451**

**AN ACT**

**DECLARING LANGAG CAVE IN BARANGAY DANSOLIHON, CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY  
AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**SECTION 1. Langag Cave Ecotourism Site.** – The Langag Cave located in Barangay Dansolihon, Cagayan de Oro City is hereby declared an ecotourism site.

**Sec. 2. Langag Cave Ecotourism Master Plan.** - Within one hundred twenty (120) days from the approval of this Act, the Department of Tourism (DOT) and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) shall develop an ecotourism a master plan subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites. Said masterplan shall be incorporated in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as “The Tourism Act of 2009” and shall also include the construction and maintenance of infrastructure and facilities in the area: Provided, That the development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the scenery and resources of the area.

**Sec. 3. Appropriations.** - The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.

**Sec. 4. Separability Clause.** - If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

**Sec. 5. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, presidential decrees and other issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

**Sec. 7. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

House Bill No. **2452**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

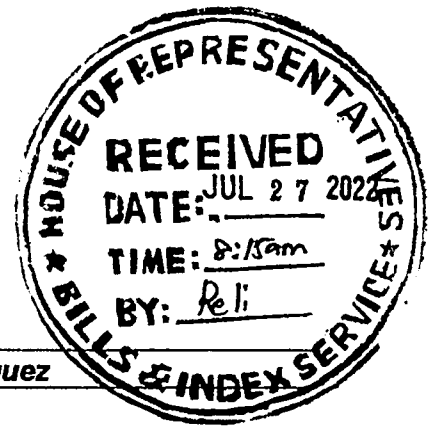
This bill seeks to declare the Macahambus Cave in Barangay Bayanga, Cagayan de Oro City as an ecotourism site.

Macahambus Cave is one of the most visited tourist destinations in Cagayan de Oro City. It is a scenic cave which is located in the tropical Macahambus Forest nature reserve. The cave houses a colony of bats and has a path and walkable scenic trails. One end of the cave leads to a veranda overlooking the Cagayan de Oro River. The place was the site of the Battle of Makahambus Hill, the first of the few battles won by the Filipinos during the Philippine-American War

Declaring the Macahambus Cave an ecotourism site will result in the development and improvement of the tourist site. It will also help the development of the local community.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this measure is earnestly requested.

  
RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ



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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

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House Bill No. 2452

AN ACT

**DECLARING MACAHAMBUS CAVE IN BARANGAY BAYANGA, CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. Macahambus Cave Ecotourism Site. – The Macahambus Cave located in Barangay Bayanga, Cagayan de Oro City is hereby declared an ecotourism site.

Sec. 2. Macahambus Cave Ecotourism Master Plan. - Within one hundred twenty (120) days from the approval of this Act, the Department of Tourism (DOT) and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) shall develop an ecotourism a master plan subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites. Said masterplan shall be incorporated in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as "The Tourism Act of 2009" and shall also include the construction and maintenance of infrastructure and facilities in the area: Provided, That the development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the scenery and resources of the area.

Sec. 3. Appropriations. - The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.

Sec. 4. Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

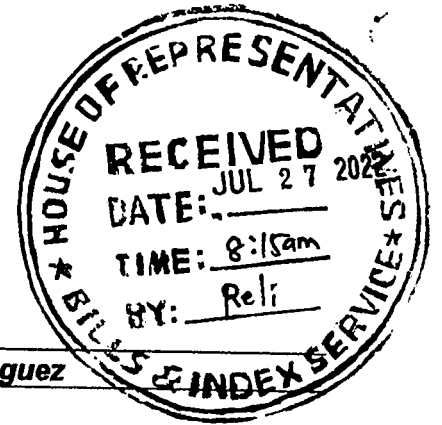
Sec. 5. Repealing Clause. - All laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, presidential decrees and other issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

Sec. 7. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

House Bill No. 2453

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to declare the Mambuaya Cave in Barangay Mambuaya, Cagayan de Oro City as an ecotourism site.

Mambuaya Cave is one of the most visited tourist destinations in Cagayan de Oro City. The cave has a small opening which is only about six (6) inches airspace between ceiling and water. One has to go underwater in order to be able to enter the cave. Once inside, one can see sparkling formations of stalactites and stalagmites. The formations in the cave are truly magnificent which is one of the reasons why many tourists visit the Mambuaya Cave.

Declaring the Mambuaya Cave an ecotourism site will result in the development and improvement of the tourist site. It will also help the development of the local community.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this measure is earnestly requested.

  
RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS** )  
**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES** )  
*First Regular Session* )

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

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***Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez***

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**House Bill No. 2453**

**AN ACT**

**DECLARING MAMBUAYA CAVE IN BARANGAY MAMBUAYA, CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY  
AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**SECTION 1.** Mambuaya Cave Ecotourism Site. – The Mambuaya Cave located in Barangay Mambuaya, Cagayan de Oro City is hereby declared an ecotourism site.

**Sec. 2.** Mambuaya Cave Ecotourism Master Plan. - Within one hundred twenty (120) days from the approval of this Act, the Department of Tourism (DOT) and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) shall develop an ecotourism a master plan subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites. Said masterplan shall be incorporated in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as "The Tourism Act of 2009" and shall also include the construction and maintenance of infrastructure and facilities in the area: Provided, That the development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the scenery and resources of the area.

**Sec. 3.** Appropriations. - The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.

**Sec. 4.** Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

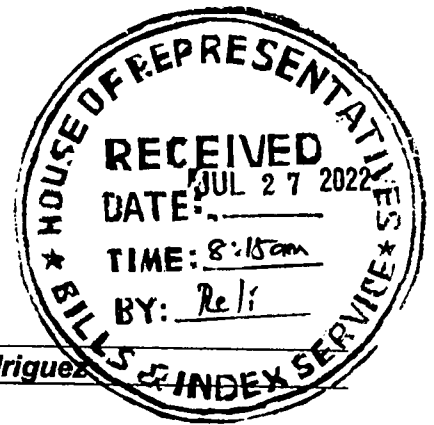
**Sec. 5.** Repealing Clause. - All laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, presidential decrees and other issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

**Sec. 7.** Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



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*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

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House Bill No. 2454

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to declare the Bolutohan Cave in Barangay Indahag, Cagayan de Oro City as an ecotourism site.

Bolutohan Cave is one of the tourist destinations in Cagayan de Oro City. Declaring the Bolutohan Cave as an ecotourism site will result in the development and improvement of the tourist site. It will also help the development of the local community.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this measure is earnestly requested.

  
RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ



**NINETEENTH CONGRESS** )  
**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES** )  
*First Regular Session* )

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

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***Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez***

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House Bill No. 2454

**AN ACT  
DECLARING BOLUTOHAN CAVE IN BARANGAY INDAHAG, CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY  
AS AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**SECTION 1.** Bolutohan Cave Ecotourism Site. – The Bolutohan Cave located in Barangay Indahag, Cagayan de Oro City is hereby declared an ecotourism site.

**Sec. 2.** Bolutohan Cave Ecotourism Master Plan. - Within one hundred twenty (120) days from the approval of this Act, the Department of Tourism (DOT) and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) shall develop an ecotourism a master plan subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites. Said masterplan shall be incorporated in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as "The Tourism Act of 2009" and shall also include the construction and maintenance of infrastructure and facilities in the area: Provided, That the development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the scenery and resources of the area.

**Sec. 3.** Appropriations. - The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.

**Sec. 4.** Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

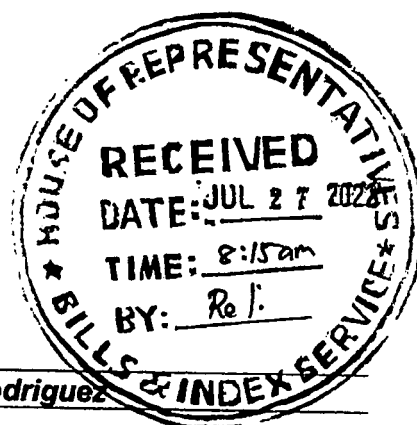
**Sec. 5.** Repealing Clause. - All laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, presidential decrees and other issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

**Sec. 7.** Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



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*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

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House Bill No. 2455

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to declare the Calabera Cave in Barangay Indahag, Cagayan de Oro City as an ecotourism site.

Calabera Cave is one of the tourist destinations in Cagayan de Oro City. Declaring the Calabera Cave as an ecotourism site will result in the development and improvement of the tourist site. It will also help the development of the local community.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this measure is earnestly requested.

  
RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

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House Bill No. 2455

**AN ACT  
DECLARING CALABERA CAVE IN BARANGAY INDAHAG, CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AS  
AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**SECTION 1. Calabera Cave Ecotourism Site.** - The Calabera Cave located in Barangay Indahag, Cagayan de Oro City is hereby declared an ecotourism site.

**Sec. 2. Calabera Cave Ecotourism Master Plan.** - Within one hundred twenty (120) days from the approval of this Act, the Department of Tourism (DOT) and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) shall develop an ecotourism a master plan subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites. Said masterplan shall be incorporated in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as "The Tourism Act of 2009" and shall also include the construction and maintenance of infrastructure and facilities in the area: Provided, That the development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the scenery and resources of the area.

**Sec. 3. Appropriations.** - The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.

**Sec. 4. Separability Clause.** - If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

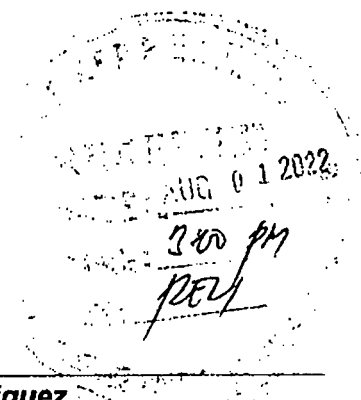
**Sec. 5. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, presidential decrees and other issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

**Sec. 7. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



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*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

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House Bill No. 2870

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to declare Migtalahid Falls located in Barangay Dansolihon in Cagayan de Oro City as an eco-tourism site.

Migtalahid Falls could be one the many possible international tourist havens in Cagayan de Oro City. It has a wide variety of flora and fauna wherein mountaineers and tourists can enjoy several common eco-tourism related activities such as trekking, nature viewing, bird watching, swimming, nature photography and camping.

Declaring the Migtalahid Falls an ecotourism site will result in the development and improvement of the tourist site. It will also help the development of the local community.

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

  
**RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ**

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

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House Bill No. 2870

AN ACT

**DECLARING MIGTALAHID FALLS IN BARANGAY DANSOLIHON IN CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. The Migtalahid Falls in Barangay Dansolihon in Cagayan de Oro City is hereby declared an ecotourism site. Its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

SEC 2. The DOT shall prepare and incorporate the development plan for Migtalahid Falls in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (DP), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as "The Tourism Act of 2009". The plan shall be implemented jointly by the local government of Cagayan de Oro City, the local Protected Area Management Board (PAMB), and the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Site Authority (TIEZA).

The DOT, in coordination with the local government of Cagayan de Oro City, the local PAMB, TIEZA and other concerned agencies of the government, shall identify well-defined geographic areas within the Migtalahid Falls ecotourism site and coordinate the integrated development of these areas, including existing infrastructure and facilities, for the optimum utilization of natural assets and attractions: Provided, That the development to be undertaken shall ensure the preservation of the scenery and the historic significance of the identified tourist attractions.

SEC 3. The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.

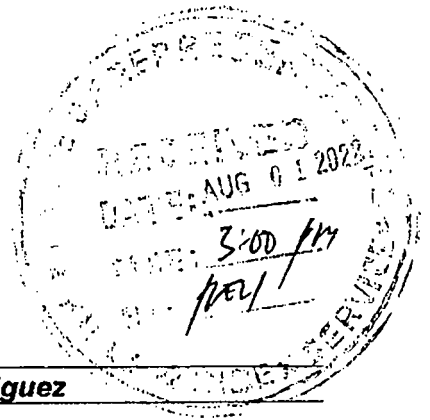
SEC 4. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DOT, in consultation the local government of Cagayan de Oro City, the local PAMB, TIEZA and other tourism stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

SEC 5. All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, rules and regulations and other issuances contrary to or inconsistent with this Act shall be deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,

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



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

House Bill No. 2871


EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare Birhen Falls located in Barangay Dansolihon in Cagayan de Oro City as an eco-tourism site.

Birhen Falls could be one the many possible international tourist havens in Cagayan de Oro City. It has a wide variety of flora and fauna wherein mountaineers and tourists can enjoy several common eco-tourism related activities such as trekking, nature viewing, bird watching, swimming, nature photography and camping.

Declaring the Birhen Falls an ecotourism site will result in the development and improvement of the tourist site. It will also help the development of the local community.

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

  
RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

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House Bill No. 2871

**AN ACT**

**DECLARING BIRHEN FALLS IN BARANGAY DANSOLIHON IN CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY  
AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. The Birhen Falls in Barangay Dansolihon in Cagayan de Oro City is hereby declared an ecotourism site. Its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

SEC 2. The DOT shall prepare and incorporate the development plan for Birhen Falls in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (DP), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as "The Tourism Act of 2009". The plan shall be implemented jointly by the local government of Cagayan de Oro City, the local Protected Area Management Board (PAMB), and the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Site Authority (TIEZA).

The DOT, in coordination with the local government of Cagayan de Oro City, the local PAMB, TIEZA and other concerned agencies of the government, shall identify well-defined geographic areas within the Birhen Falls ecotourism site and coordinate the integrated development of these areas, including existing infrastructure and facilities, for the optimum utilization of natural assets and attractions: Provided, That the development to be undertaken shall ensure the preservation of the scenery and the historic significance of the identified tourist attractions.

SEC 3. The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.

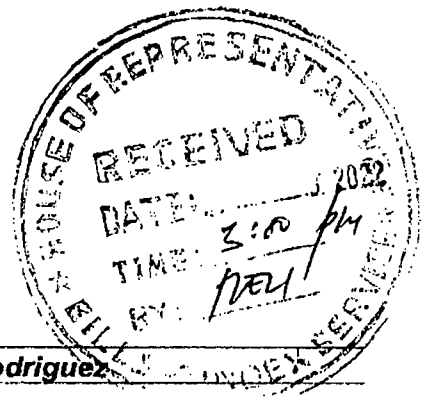
SEC 4. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DOT, in consultation the local government of Cagayan de Oro City, the local PAMB, TIEZA and other tourism stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

SEC 5. All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, rules and regulations and other issuances contrary to or inconsistent with this Act shall be deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,

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



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

House Bill No. 2872

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to declare Igbalalay Falls located in Barangay Balubal in Cagayan de Oro City as an eco-tourism site.

Igbalalay Falls, sometimes referred to as Balubal Falls could be one of the many possible international tourist havens in Cagayan de Oro City. It has a wide variety of flora and fauna wherein mountaineers and tourists can enjoy several common eco-tourism related activities such as trekking, nature viewing, bird watching, swimming, nature photography and camping.

Declaring the Igbalalay Falls an ecotourism site will result in the development and improvement of the tourist site. It will also help the development of the local community.

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

  
RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ



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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

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House Bill No. 2872

AN ACT

**DECLARING IGBALALAY FALLS IN BARANGAY BALUBAL IN CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY  
AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. The Igbalalay Falls in Barangay Balubal in Cagayan de Oro City is hereby declared an ecotourism site. Its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

SEC 2. The DOT shall prepare and incorporate the development plan for Igbalalay Falls in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (DP), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as "The Tourism Act of 2009". The plan shall be implemented jointly by the local government of Cagayan de Oro City, the local Protected Area Management Board (PAMB), and the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Site Authority (TIEZA).

The DOT, in coordination with the local government of Cagayan de Oro City, the local PAMB, TIEZA and other concerned agencies of the government, shall identify well-defined geographic areas within the Igbalalay Falls ecotourism site and coordinate the integrated development of these areas, including existing infrastructure and facilities, for the optimum utilization of natural assets and attractions: Provided, That the development to be undertaken shall ensure the preservation of the scenery and the historic significance of the identified tourist attractions.

SEC 3. The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.

SEC 4. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DOT, in consultation the local government of Cagayan de Oro City, the local PAMB, TIEZA and other tourism stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

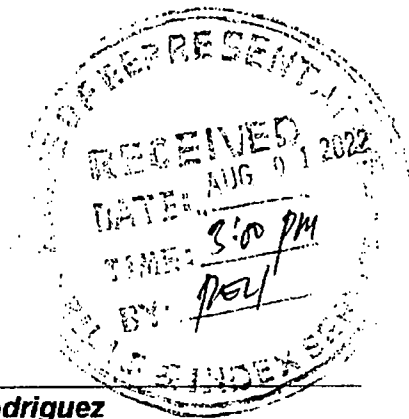
SEC 5. All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, rules and regulations and other issuances contrary to or inconsistent with this Act shall be deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

House Bill No. 2873

EXPLANATORY NOTE

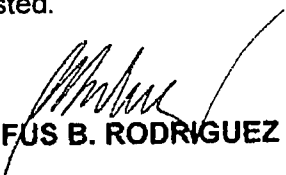
This bill seeks to declare Migtugsok Falls located in Barangay FS Catanico in Cagayan de Oro City as an eco-tourism site.

Migtugsok Falls (sometimes referred to as Treasure Falls) has water cascades and water falls flowing with cool waters from two tributaries: one stream from the Malasag mountains and one from Libona. The steady stream of water has also created large pools which vary in depth. Migtugsok Falls is accessible either via the hiking trail from Indahag or via river trekking or via Mapawa Nature Park.

Migtugsok Falls could be one the many possible international tourist havens in Cagayan de Oro City. It has a wide variety of flora and fauna wherein mountaineers and tourists can enjoy several common eco-tourism related activities such as trekking, nature viewing, bird watching, swimming, nature photography and camping.

Declaring the Migtugsok Falls an ecotourism site will result in the development and improvement of the tourist site. It will also help the development of the local community.

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

  
RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS** )  
**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES** )  
*First Regular Session* )

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

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*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

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House Bill No. 2873

**AN ACT**

**DECLARING MIGTUGSOK FALLS IN BARANGAY FS CATANICO IN CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. The Migtugsok Falls in Barangay FS Catanico in Cagayan de Oro City is hereby declared an ecotourism site. Its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

SEC 2. The DOT shall prepare and incorporate the development plan for Migtugsok Falls in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (DP), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as "The Tourism Act of 2009". The plan shall be implemented jointly by the local government of Cagayan de Oro City, the local Protected Area Management Board (PAMB), and the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Site Authority (TIEZA).

The DOT, in coordination with the local government of Cagayan de Oro City, the local PAMB, TIEZA and other concerned agencies of the government, shall identify well-defined geographic areas within the Migtugsok Falls ecotourism site and coordinate the integrated development of these areas, including existing infrastructure and facilities, for the optimum utilization of natural assets and attractions: Provided, That the development to be undertaken shall ensure the preservation of the scenery and the historic significance of the identified tourist attractions.

SEC 3. The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.

SEC 4. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DOT, in consultation the local government of Cagayan de Oro City, the local PAMB, TIEZA and other tourism stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

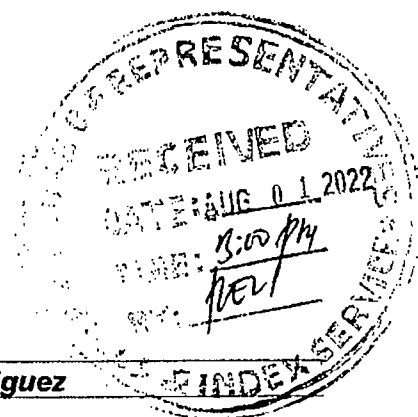
SEC 5. All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, rules and regulations and other issuances contrary to or inconsistent with this Act shall be deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

House Bill No. 2874

EXPLANATORY NOTE


This bill seeks to declare Sinulom Falls and Bulao Cold Spring located in Barangay Tignapoloan in Cagayan de Oro City as an eco-tourism site.

The Sinulom Falls are eye-catching and it flows directly to Cagayan de Oro River. IT is surrounded by forests and has a wide variety of flora and fauna. Around 300 meters upstream is the Bulao Cold Spring which can be accessed via hanging bridge from Sinulom Falls.

Sinulom Falls and Bulao Cold Spring could be one of the many possible international tourist havens in Cagayan de Oro City. It has a wide variety of flora and fauna wherein mountaineers and tourists can enjoy several common eco-tourism related activities such as trekking, nature viewing, bird watching, swimming, nature photography and camping.

Declaring the Sinulom Falls and Bulao Cold Spring an ecotourism site will result in the development and improvement of the tourist site. It will also help the development of the local community.

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

  
RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

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House Bill No. 2874

AN ACT

**DECLARING SINULOM FALLS AND BULAO COLD SPRING IN BARANGAY TIGNAPOLOAN IN CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. The Sinulom Falls and Bulao Cold Spring in Barangay Tignapoloan in Cagayan de Oro City is hereby declared an ecotourism site. Its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

SEC 2. The DOT shall prepare and incorporate the development plan for Sinulom Falls and Bulao Cold Spring in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (DP), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as "The Tourism Act of 2009". The plan shall be implemented jointly by the local government of Cagayan de Oro City, the local Protected Area Management Board (PAMB), and the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Site Authority (TIEZA).

The DOT, in coordination with the local government of Cagayan de Oro City, the local PAMB, TIEZA and other concerned agencies of the government, shall identify well-defined geographic areas within the Sinulom Falls and Bulao Cold Spring ecotourism site and coordinate the integrated development of these areas, including existing infrastructure and facilities, for the optimum utilization of natural assets and attractions: Provided, That the development to be undertaken shall ensure the preservation of the scenery and the historic significance of the identified tourist attractions.

SEC 3. The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.

SEC 4. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DOT, in consultation the local government of Cagayan de Oro City, the local PAMB, TIEZA and other tourism stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

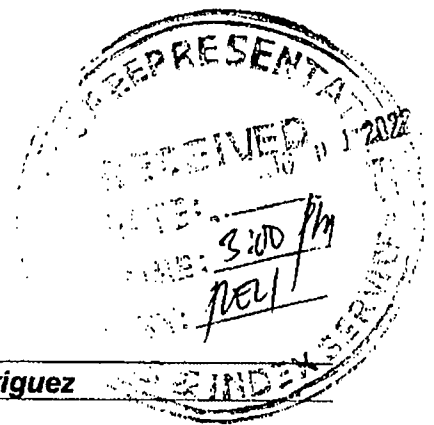
SEC 5. All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, rules and regulations and other issuances contrary to or inconsistent with this Act shall be deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

House Bill No. 2875

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to declare Ulo Balongkot Falls located in Barangay Dansolihon in Cagayan de Oro City as an eco-tourism site.

Ulo Balongkot Falls could be one the many possible international tourist havens in Cagayan de Oro City. It has a wide variety of flora and fauna wherein mountaineers and tourists can enjoy several common eco-tourism related activities such as trekking, nature viewing, bird watching, swimming, nature photography and camping.

Declaring the Ulo Balongkot Falls an ecotourism site will result in the development and improvement of the tourist site. It will also help the development of the local community.

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

  
RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS** )  
**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES** )  
*First Regular Session* )

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

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*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

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**2875**

House Bill No. \_\_\_\_\_

**AN ACT**

**DECLARING ULO BALONGKOT FALLS IN BARANGAY DANSOLIHON IN CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. The Ulo Balongkot Falls in Barangay Dansolihon in Cagayan de Oro City is hereby declared an ecotourism site. Its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

SEC 2. The DOT shall prepare and incorporate the development plan for Ulo Balongkot Falls in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (DP), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as "The Tourism Act of 2009". The plan shall be implemented jointly by the local government of Cagayan de Oro City, the local Protected Area Management Board (PAMB), and the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Site Authority (TIEZA).

The DOT, in coordination with the local government of Cagayan de Oro City, the local PAMB, TIEZA and other concerned agencies of the government, shall identify well-defined geographic areas within the Ulo Balongkot Falls ecotourism site and coordinate the integrated development of these areas, including existing infrastructure and facilities, for the optimum utilization of natural assets and attractions: Provided, That the development to be undertaken shall ensure the preservation of the scenery and the historic significance of the identified tourist attractions.

SEC 3. The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.

SEC 4. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DOT, in consultation the local government of Cagayan de Oro City, the local PAMB, TIEZA and other tourism stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

SEC 5. All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, rules and regulations and other issuances contrary to or inconsistent with this Act shall be deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

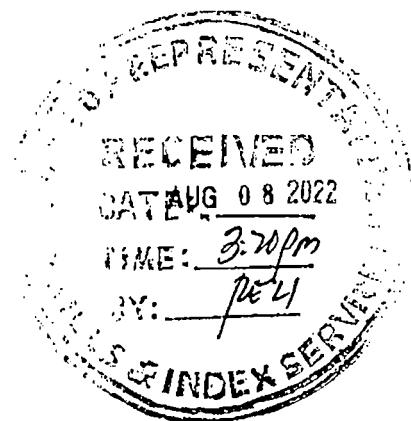
SEC 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

Nineteenth Congress  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 3321**



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Introduced by **REPRESENTATIVE LAARNI LAVIN ROQUE**

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### EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare Lake Apo located in Barangay Guinoyoran, City of Valencia, Province of Bukidnon as a responsible, community-based ecotourism zone with the goals of developing and promoting the areas into a community-based ecological tourist destination, generating investments, creating livelihood opportunities, and protecting the natural resources within the area.

Found in Barangay Guinoyoran, City of Valencia, Lake Apo is a rift lake, fashioned in a circular shape atop a mountain floor due mainly to the movement of the earth's crust. This serene lake has a beautiful backdrop of hills and mountains and greenery. It is hailed as a clean and green inland body of water in Northern Mindanao and was awarded the Cleanest Lake in Region 10 in the late 1990s. This 24-hectare lake has a depth ranging from 17 to 26 meters where species of fish thrive.

In anticipation of the influx of local and foreign tourists, this bill, when enacted into law, will help secure adequate national support for the local government units (LGUs) to realize its vast potential as an eco-tourism zone that is ecologically sustainable, responsible, participative, culturally sensitive, economically viable and ethically and socially equitable for the local community.

Furthermore, the enactment of this bill into law will effectively fast-track the construction and improvement of roads and bridges, and other infrastructure projects necessary to make the area accessible and convenient to all, especially the tourists.

Given the above premises, the urgent passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
**LAARNI LAVIN ROQUE**  
Representative  
4th District, Bukidnon



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

Nineteenth Congress  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 3321**

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Introduced by **REPRESENTATIVE LAARNI LAVIN ROQUE**

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**AN ACT**

**DECLARING LAKE APO LOCATED AT BARANGAY GUINOYORAN, CITY OF VALENCIA, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE TO ENCOURAGE THE RESPONSIBLE AND SUSTAINABLE USE AS WELL AS FOR THE PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES FOUND THEREIN, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

**SECTION 1.** Lake Apo located at Barangay Guinoyoran, City of Valencia, Province of Bukidnon is hereby declared as ecotourism zone.

**SEC. 2.** The Department of Tourism (DOT), in coordination with concerned agencies of the government and local government units, shall update and consolidate all existing tourism development plans for the area or prepare a comprehensive ecotourism development action plan for the Lake Apo Ecotourism Zone consistent with the national tourism master plan. The plan shall include the construction, development and maintenance of facilities and infrastructure to enhance the tourism sites: Provided, that the interventions shall ensure biophysical conservation and cultural preservation in the area, while providing sustainable economic opportunities for the local communities.

**SEC. 3.** The DOT shall incorporate the ecotourism development action plan to the overall Philippine National Tourism Development Plan pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as the "Tourism Act of 2009" and take immediate steps to implement the ecotourism development action plan and incorporate the same in its tourism development program for the ensuing calendar years.

The DOT and its concerned attached agencies shall also provide the necessary technical and financial assistance for the development of tourism infrastructure and the conduct of skills development in concerned local government units and their local communities while endeavoring, when practicable, to promote the tourism zones both domestically and internationally.

**SEC. 4.** The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), in coordination with the office of the district representative of the Fourth District of Bukidnon, shall implement the fast-tracked construction and improvement of roads, bridges and other infrastructure necessary in the development of the area upon the promulgation of this Act and prioritize the same in its infrastructure program.

The DOT, DPWH and Department of Transportation (DOTR) shall promote the progressive development and aggressive spending in civil aviation, land and sea transportation infrastructure in the area to improve accessibility and connectivity of tourist destinations.

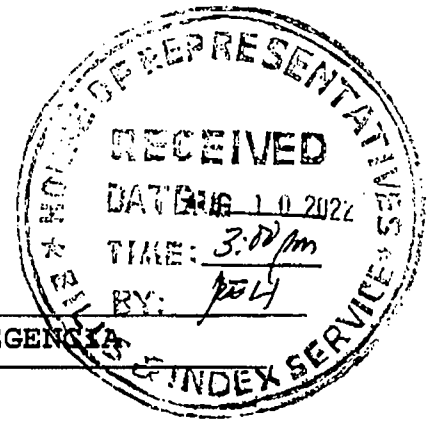
**SEC. 5.** The DOT and concerned agencies and local government units shall organize a forum by which the private sector, nongovernment organizations and other interest groups can interact with one another and create an atmosphere that shall encourage investment and develop a culture of tourism.

**SEC. 6.** Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOT, in consultation with local concerned government units, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for its proper implementation.

**SEC. 7.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

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



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Introduced by Representative CELSO G. REGENCIA

House Bill No. 3472

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare Dodiongan Falls located in Barangay Bonbonon, Iligan City, Lanao del Norte as tourist spot and as eco-tourism site.

Known as Iligan's Angel-Winged Falls, Dodiongan Falls is a 20-metre high waterfall located in Barangay Bonbonon, 14 km away from Iligan City-proper.

Dodiongan Falls is a potential tourist haven and eco-tourism site for it offers various and wide variety of flora and fauna and challenging terrains, wherein tourist can enjoy eco-tourism activities such as, but not limited to, camping, trekking and bird watching.

It is known and had been observed that the current and flow of water is slowly decreasing due to unwarranted cutting of trees within the vicinity.

The declaration of Dodiongan Falls as tourist spot and eco-tourism site will help the conservation and protection of the waterfalls, and develop as well as manage the resources therein with proper guidance from the authorities. It will generate employment and bring in economic benefits.

The approval of this bill is respectfully recommended.

  
CELSO G. REGENCIA

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF THE REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

3472

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Introduced by Representative CELSO G. REGENCIA

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AN ACT DECLARING DODIONGAN FALLS IN BARANGAY BONBONON,  
ILIGAN CITY, LANA DEL NORTE AS TOURIST SITE AND AS ECO-  
TOURISM ZONE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSE

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

SECTION 1. Short Title -- This Act shall be known as  
"DODIONGAN FALLS ECO-TOURISM ACT"

SECTION 2. State Policy -- The State promotes tourism  
industry that is ecologically sustainable, responsible,  
participative, culturally sensitive, economically viable, and  
equitably beneficial to local communities.

SECTION 3. Dodiongan Falls Tourism Site and Eco-Tourism  
Zone -- The Dodiongan Falls located at Barangay Bonbonon,  
Iligan City, Lanao del Norte, is hereby declared as Tourism  
Site and Eco-Tourism Zone. Its development shall be  
prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be  
subject to the rules and regulations governing the  
declaration of tourism site and eco-tourism zone.

Section 4. Eco-Tourism Deveploment Plan - The DOT shall  
prepare and incorporate the development plan for Dodiongan  
Falls in the over-all National Tourism Development Plan  
(NTPD) pursuant to Republic Act 9593 otherwise known as "The

Tourism Act of 2009". The plan shall be implemented jointly by the City of Iligan, the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) and Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA)

Section 5. Development Plan -- The DOT, in coordination with the City of Iligan, PAMB, and TIEZA, and other concerned agencies of the government, shall identify and defined the areas, including its boundaries, within, and covered by, Dodiongan Falls Tourism Site and Eco-Tourism Zone, and implement the development of the defined area taking into account the preservation of its natural assets and scenery.

Section 6. Appropriations -- The Secretaries of Department of Tourism (DOT) and Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) shall include in their respective department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall not be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act, and from the internally generated funds of the Department of Tourism (DOT).

Section 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations -- Within 60 days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Tourism (DOT), in coordination with the City of Iligan, Protected Area Management Board (PAMB), Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) as well as other stakeholders shall promulgate implementing rules and regulations for the implementation of this Act.

Section 8. Separability Clause -- If any provision of this act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Section 9. Repealing clause -- All laws, rules, regulations, proclamations, executive orders, local ordinance/s contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby modified, repealed or amended accordingly.

Section 10. Effectivity Clause -- This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or news paper of general circulation.

Approve on \_\_\_\_\_

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2488**



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Introduced by: **HON. CLAUDE P. BAUTISTA**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to declare the Municipality of Sarangani as an eco-tourism zone. A coastal municipality in the province of Davao Occidental, Sarangani consists of undiscovered picturesque sites that have the potential to eventually be internationally-known tourist destinations at the same level with or even greater than the Island of Boracay, Palawan and the like.

The municipality of Sarangani consists of two major islands namely Sarangani Island and Balut Island. These two major islands present a variety of promising beaches with abundant marine resources and lush-green forest. Within Sarangani Island alone, there are more than ten (10) white-sand pristine beaches where tourists can enjoy swimming, snorkeling, scuba-diving or simply admire the scenic and peaceful sunset by the crystal-clear shore. One of the famous tourist destinations is Bubu Beach located in Barangay Laker, Sarangani, Davao Occidental. Not only is it recognized for its white-sand beach front but it is also lined with coconut trees. Another recognized tourist site is the Olanivan Islet located in Barangay Patuco, Sarangani, Davao Occidental. With a land area of around twenty-four (24) hectares, this oval-shaped little island is a must-go place of tourists for its pink sand brought about by crushed red corals that have washed ashore.

Tourists also can peacefully meditate and unwind in the Islet as they can experience privacy at its fullest being that it is mostly uninhabited. In the island of Balut, sites that are quite popular among local tourists can be enjoyed. One of those is the Sabang Hot Spring located in Sitio Sabang, Barangay Lipol, Sarangani, Davao Occidental. With a vibrant turquoise pool, tourists travel to witness firsthand the boiling hot spring where the temperature can reach as hot as 80 degrees Celsius (80°C). Another unexplored site in the island of Balut is Kalsuso, also known as the Gomtago Peak located in Barangay Gomtago, Sarangani, Davao Occidental. From its highest vantage point, mountaineers can actually see the remote islands of Indonesia (Marure Island). What's more is that this site is surrounded by towering trees fully covered by vines and air plants

These tourist sites are just some of the hidden treasures of the Island Paradise in the Municipality of Sarangani. Consequently, the passage of this bill would unveil the beauty of the island not only to the domestic but also international tourists. The development of these eco-tourism sites would immensely contribute and assist the municipality to increase its revenue, generate employment opportunities, and skills development for its residents as well as create business opportunities for them through the advancement of the tourism industry in the area.

The moment the Island Municipality of Sarangani would be declared as an eco-tourism zone, the implementation of the provisions of this bill will eventually be the turning point for the improvement of the lives of the Saranganians. Eventually, when this bill is passed and has reached its optimum implementation, the local government unit of Sarangani would become self-sustaining and would be able to assist in increasing the revenue of the Philippines and thus afford to help other local government units in the country.

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

  
**CLAUDE P. BAUTISTA**



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2488**

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Introduced by: **HON. CLAUDE P. BAUTISTA**

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**AN ACT DECLARING THE ISLAND-MUNICIPALITY OF  
SARANGANI, PROVINCE OF DAVAO OCCIDENTAL AN  
ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. **Short Title.** — This Act shall be known as the "Island-Municipality of Sarangani Ecotourism Act."

SECTION 2. **Declaration of Policy.** It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote a tourism industry that is ecologically sustainable, responsible, participative, culturally sensitive, economically viable and equitably beneficial to local communities.

SECTION 3. **Municipality of Sarangani as an Eco-Tourism Zone.** The Island Municipality of Sarangani, Province of Davao Occidental is hereby declared as an ecotourism zone. The development of the eco-tourism sites in the Municipality shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

The DOT shall prepare and incorporate the development plan for the Island Municipality of Sarangani in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as "The Tourism Act of 2009". The plan shall be implemented jointly with the Local Government of the Municipality of Sarangani, Davao Occidental Provincial Tourism Culture and Council, the Provincial Government of Davao Occidental and the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA).

The DOT, in coordination with the Municipality of Sarangani, Davao Occidental Provincial Tourism Culture & Arts Council, the Provincial Government of Davao Occidental and the TIEZA and other concerned agencies

of the government shall assist in the development, promotion and the preservation of the following eco-tourism sites in the municipality, to wit:

(a) Bulaye Beach located in Barangay Laker, Sarangani, Davao Occidental;

(b) Bubu Beach located in Barangay Laker, Sarangani, Davao Occidental;

(c) Tuke Maklang located in Barangay Laker, Sarangani, Davao Occidental ;

(d) Marorong Islet located in Sitio Kaimba, Barangay Mabila, Sarangani, Davao Occidental;

(e) Tuke Nonsol located in Sitio Tinarubo, Barangay Camalig, Sarangani, Davao Occidental;

(f) Maluko Beach located in Sitio Maluko, Barangay Laker, Sarangani, Davao Occidental;

(g) Ubas Beach located in Sitio Ubas, Barangay Patuco, Sarangani, Davao Occidental;

(h) Olanivan Islet located in Barangay Patuco, Sarangani, Davao Occidental ;

(i) Sabang Hot Spring located in Sitio Sabang, Barangay Lipol, Sarangani, Davao Occidental;

(j) Kakayi Beach located in Barangay Camalig, Sarangani, Davao Occidental ;

(k) Turang Beach located in Barangay Camalig, Sarangani, Davao Occidental;

(l) Mangahos Beach located in Barangay Camalig, Sarangani, Davao Occidental;

(m) Pacao Beach located in Barangay Laker, Sarangani, Davao Occidental;

(n) Kalsuso (Gomtago Peak) located in Barangay Gomtago, Sarangani, Davao Occidental; and

(o) all other geographic areas within the Island Municipality of Sarangani which may be eventually identified and recommended as eco-tourism sites by the above-mentioned government agencies provided that such recommendation must be approved by the Local Government Unit of the Municipality of Sarangani.

**SECTION 4. Guidelines for the development of the eco-tourism sites in the Municipality.** For the development of the eco-tourism sites in the area,

- (a) The development of the areas must give utmost consideration for the optimum utilization of its natural assets and attractions, as well as existing infrastructure and facilities; Provided, that the development shall ensure the preservation of the scenery and the historic significance of the eco-tourism sites. Provided further, that the development of the areas and the policies to be formulated relevant thereto must be consistent with the practice of a sustainable and responsible ecotourism;
- (b) The development of these areas must afford opportunities for employment and livelihood for the local residents of the Municipality, in keeping with the preservation and maintenance of the natural resources of the area; and
- (c) The development of these areas shall be subject to the rules and regulations regarding the maintenance and protection of the ecotourism sites as may be formulated by the Local Government Unit, in coordination with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the DOT, as well as the relevant regional offices of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Department of Transportation (DOTr), Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Education (DepEd), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Philippine National Police (PNP), Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) and other line-agencies of the government concerned necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

**SECTION 5. *Coordination with other Government Agencies.*** Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DOT, in consultation with the Local Government of the Municipality of Sarangani, Davao Occidental Provincial Tourism Culture & Arts Council, the Provincial Government of Davao Occidental, the TIEZA and other tourism stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

**SECTION 5.** The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act and internally generated funds of the DOT.

**SECTION 6. *Repealing Clause.*** All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, rules and regulations and other issuances contrary to or inconsistent with this Act shall be deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

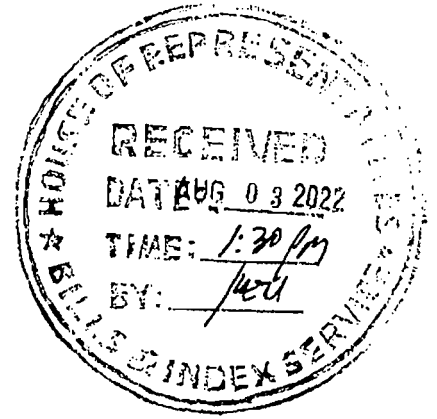
**SECTION 7. *Effectivity.*** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 3078**



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Introduced by **HON. JOHN TRACY F. CAGAS**

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**AN ACT DECLARING BARANGAY MANAGA, SITIO BALUTAKAY IN THE  
MUNICIPALITY OF BANSALAN, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL SUR AS AN ECO-  
AGRITOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Whereas Batangas had been labelled as the coffee capital of the Philippines, there are a lot of areas in the Philippines with high coffee production potentials, and one of which is the Barangay Managa, Sitio Balutakay in Bansalan Davao del Sur.

Barangay Managa, Sitio Balutakay, located 400 to 1,000 meters above sea level at the foothills of Mt. Apo, has a micro-climate that favors coffee-growing efforts.

In addition, the volcanic soil of Barangay Managa, Sitio Balutakay gives the coffee a distinct flavor and quality. Despite these potentials, the coffee farmers of the Barangay are still met with some challenges brought by the lack of local market demand.

Reports from MindaNews said at present, around 60 farmers are engaged in coffee farming, with at least 50 hectares estimated to have been planted with Arabica coffee trees. Each hectare has around 1,800 to 2,000 trees. Harvest peaks between October to January, which yield the farmers around 10 to 20 metric tons of dried coffee beans.

Declaring Balutakay as an eco-agritourism site would not only assist the farmers with their livelihood but also promote the growing coffee plantation in the area and create lasting solutions to the challenges experienced by the farmers. Coffee production also provides a diverse habitat for native species, allows the soil to replenish nutrients and provides natural pest control.

In addition, Barangay Managa, Sitio Balutakay is home to Salinta Monon, who is touted to be the "last Bagobo weaver" and a National Manlilikha awardee. Salinta has built a

reputation for her weaves of traditional Bagobo-Tagabawa textiles. However, she passed into legend in 2009, which leaves us with few remaining weavers in barangay Balutakay.

Endangered not only for lack of proponents, the art, which is considered the last links to a colorful tradition of their tribe is also endangered because of the declining cultivation of abaca plant to make the distinctive cloth, *inabel*. The ancestral land of Salinta Monon no longer yields enough produce to sustain the materials, making life for the remaining weavers a constant struggle.

This declaration will promote the preservation of the knowledge and technique of weaving the traditional Bagobo-Tagabawa textiles, which has been enduring the verge of extinction for years.

It is the policy of State to accord priority status to sustainable, vibrant and profitable tourism development as one of the engines of socio-economic growth, cultural affirmation to generate investment, foreign exchange and employment.

This bill has been previously approved in the House of Representatives during the 18<sup>th</sup> Congress as filed by Hon. Mercedes “Didi” C. Cagas and was transmitted to the Senate but was not taken up due to the advent of the COVID 19 pandemic.

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

  
JOHN TRACY F. CAGAS

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 3078**

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Introduced by **HON. JOHN TRACY F. CAGAS**

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**AN ACT DECLARING BARANGAY MANAGA, SITIO BALUTAKAY IN THE  
MUNICIPALITY OF BANSALAN, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL SUR AS AN ECO-  
AGRITOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. Title. - This Act shall be known as “Barangay Managa Eco-agritourism Act.”

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote a tourism industry that is ecologically sustainable, responsible, participative, culturally sensitive, economically viable, and equitable for local communities.

SEC. 3. Barangay Managa Eco-Agritourism Site. –Barangay Managa, Sitio Balutakay in the Municipality of Bansalan, Davao Del Sur is hereby declared an eco-agritourism site. Its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of the eco-agritourism site.

The DOT shall prepare a development plan that ensures the preservation and conservation of the natural resources of the area. The plan should also include construction and maintenance of necessary facilities to enhance the eco-agritourism area and ensure optimum utilization of assets and resources available.

SEC. 4. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – It shall be the responsibility of DOT to promote Barangay Managa, Sitio Balutakay as an eco-agritourism destination in all its national, regional and local promotion programs. The DOT, in consultation with the province of Davao Del Sur and the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA)

shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 5. Appropriations. – The funding of this act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and internally generated funds of DOT, the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SEC. 6. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 7. Repealing Clause. – All laws, rules, regulations, proclamations, executive orders, proclamations and administrative regulations, or any part or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 8. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a national newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,