



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 692

BY REPRESENTATIVE ARNAIZ

AN ACT DECLARING THE MABINAY CAVES IN THE MUNICIPALITY
OF MABINAY, PROVINCE OF ORIENTAL NEGROS AS AN
ECO-TOURISM SPOT, 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. The Mabinay Caves in the Municipality of Mabinay,
2 Province of Oriental Negros is hereby declared an eco-tourism spot. As such,
3 it shall be accorded priority development by the Department of Tourism
4 (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the
5 development of eco-tourism spots.

6 SEC. 2. The DOT, in coordination with the local government units
7 (LGUs), the Representative of the Second Congressional District of Oriental
8 Negros and other concerned agencies of the government shall, within one (1)
9 year after the approval of this Act, prepare a development plan involving the
10 construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and
11 infrastructure as shall enhance eco-tourism in the area: *Provided, That said*

1 development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the natural
2 resources of the area.

3 SEC. 3. The DOT shall take immediate steps in implementing the
4 tourism development plan that will suit the natural characteristic of the
5 Mabinay Caves and shall incorporate the same in its overall development plans
6 and programs for national implementation.

7 SEC. 4. It shall also be the responsibility of the DOT to promote the
8 Mabinay Caves as an eco-tourism spot in all its national, regional and local
9 promotion programs.

10 SEC. 5. The DOT shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations
11 for the proper implementation of this Act.

12 SEC. 6. The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's
13 program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be charged
14 against the internally generated funds of the Tourism Infrastructure and
15 Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA) and/or the appropriations in the annual
16 General Appropriations Act.

17 SEC. 7. All laws, rules, regulations, proclamations, executive orders or
18 parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended accordingly.

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

Approved,