



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 6929

BY REPRESENTATIVES DIMAPORO (M.K.), DIMAPORO (A.) AND
NOGRALES (K.A.), PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 567

AN ACT DECLARING THE PROVINCE OF LANA O DEL NORTE
A TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AREA (TDA), CREATING
THE LANA O DEL NORTE PROVINCIAL TOURISM
COUNCIL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 SECTION 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Lanao
2 del Norte Tourism Development Area (TDA) Act”.

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

7 SEC. 3. *Scope and Coverage.* – The Lanao del Norte TDA
8 shall cover its municipalities endowed with natural beauty, small
9 islands, waterfalls, springs, rivers, caves, beaches, sea and
10 mountain resources, historical and natural landmarks, indigenous
11 communities and other areas of interest to the tourism industry.

1 As such, its development shall be prioritized by the
2 Department of Tourism (DOT), and shall be subject to the rules and
3 regulations governing the development of tourism development
4 areas.

5 SEC. 4. *Tourism Development Plan.* – The Tourism
6 Development Plan for the Province of Lanao del Norte shall be
7 incorporated in the DOT's overall National Tourism Development
8 Plan (NTDP) pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known
9 as "The Tourism Act of 2009", and shall be jointly implemented with
10 the local government units concerned and the Provincial Tourism
11 Council of Lanao del Norte, taking into consideration Republic
12 Act No. 7586, otherwise known as the "National Integrated
13 Protected Areas System Act of 1992", and its implementing rules
14 and regulations.

15 The DOT, in coordination with the Tourism Infrastructure
16 and Enterprise Zone Authority, the Department of Environment
17 and Natural Resources (DENR) and other concerned agencies of the
18 government, shall delineate well-defined geographic areas within
19 the Lanao del Norte TDA and coordinate the integrated
20 development of these areas for the optimum use of natural assets
21 and attractions, as well as existing facilities.

22 The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), in
23 coordination with the DOT and the Lanao del Norte Provincial
24 Tourism Council, shall set in place the necessary construction and
25 improvement of roads and other infrastructure upon the
26 promulgation of this Act and incorporate the same in its
27 infrastructure program.

1 SEC. 5. *Lanao del Norte Tourism Council.* – The Provincial
2 Governor of Lanao del Norte shall create a Provincial Tourism
3 Council, hereinafter referred to as the “Council”, which shall be
4 composed of government and private sector representatives.

5 The Council shall have the following functions:

6 (a) Formulate programs and recommendations to develop
7 local tourism facilities and attractions tapping local resources and
8 funds;

9 (b) Assist in the regulation and supervision of
10 tourism-oriented establishments thereby ensuring wholesome and
11 clean tourism activities;

12 (c) Assist in monitoring the implementation of the Local
13 Government Code on the matter of licensing of tourism
14 establishments in the locality to ascertain safe and enjoyable stay of
15 travelers;

16 (d) Strictly enforce sanitary standards in public restrooms
17 frequented by public utility vehicles and tourist transport services,
18 i.e. gasoline stations, restaurants along main highways and bus
19 stops; and

20 (e) Perform other duties in accordance with the Department
21 of the Interior and Local Government’s (DILG) Guidelines.

22 The Provincial Government of Lanao del Norte shall provide a
23 Secretariat for the Council, including the necessary expenses for the
24 performance of its official functions and activities.

25 SEC. 6. *Lanao del Norte Tourism Development Trust Fund.* –
26 There is hereby established a trust fund under this Act to be known
27 as the Lanao del Norte Tourism Development Trust Fund, for the
28 purpose of financing projects which shall enhance tourism in the

1 province. The Trust Fund shall be administered by a Trust Fund
2 Administrator under the Provincial Tourism Office of Lanao
3 del Norte. Funds shall be derived from fees collected from
4 visitors/tourists, other resources from the province, proceeds from
5 the registration and lease of multiple-use areas, including tourism
6 concessions, fees, proceeds and contributions from industries and
7 facilities directly benefiting the province.

8 The Trust Fund may be augmented by grants and donations,
9 endowments from various sources, domestic or foreign entities and
10 individuals, for purposes related to their functions: *Provided*, That
11 disbursements therefrom shall be in accordance with existing
12 accounting and auditing rules and regulations: *Provided, further*,
13 That the Trust Fund shall not be used to cover personnel services
14 expenditures.

15 *SEC. 7. Appropriations.* - The Secretaries of the DOT,
16 DENR and DPWH shall include in their respective Department's
17 programs the implementation of the Lanao del Norte Tourism
18 Development Plan, the funding of which shall be included in the
19 annual General Appropriations Act and from internally generated
20 funds of the DOT.

21 *SEC. 8. Separability Clause.* - Any provision of this Act or
22 part thereof that may be declared unconstitutional shall not affect
23 the effectivity of the other provisions.

24 *SEC. 9. Repealing Clause.* - All laws, presidential decrees,
25 executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are
26 inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act shall be deemed
27 repealed or modified accordingly.

- 1 SEC. 10. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
2 days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in any newspaper
3 of general circulation.

Approved,

O