



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 7429

BY REPRESENTATIVES HOFER, NOGRALES (K.A.), LIMKAICHONG,
ALVAREZ (F.), ROCAMORA, GO (M.), PINEDA, LEE, ANTONIO,
ACOSTA, BRAVO (A.), GARIN (S.), LOPEZ (B.) AND
SARMIENTO (E.M.), PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 674

AN ACT DECLARING THE MALUBAL FALLS IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF ROSELLER T. LIM, PROVINCE OF
ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY 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 the
2 “Malubal Falls Ecotourism Act”.

3 SEC. 2. *The Malubal Falls Ecotourism Site.* – The Malubal
4 Falls in the Municipality of Roseller T. Lim (RT Lim) in the Second
5 District of Zamboanga Sibugay is hereby declared an ecotourism
6 site, whose geographical limits shall be subject to study by the local
7 government unit.

8 Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the
9 Secretary of the Department of Tourism (DOT) shall promulgate the
10 necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of
11 this Act.

1 SEC. 3. *The Malubal Falls Ecotourism Council.* – Within
2 one (1) year after the approval of this Act, there shall be created an
3 ecotourism council, to be known as the Malubal Falls Ecotourism
4 Council, hereinafter referred to as the “Council” and shall be
5 composed of the following:

6 (a) The Mayor of the Municipality of RT Lim, as
7 Chairperson;

8 (b) One (1) representative from an accredited
9 nongovernmental organization whose advocacy is environmental
10 preservation, as member;

11 (c) One (1) representative from a recognized indigenous
12 people’s organization, as member; and

13 (d) Two (2) representatives from the private sector, as
14 members.

15 The local legislative body of RT Lim shall appoint the
16 members of the Council for a term of five (5) years, renewable for
17 one (1) term.

18 The Provincial Government of Zamboanga Sibugay shall
19 provide a Secretariat for the Council including the funding
20 necessary to cover expenses for the performance of its official
21 functions and activities.

22 SEC. 4. *Functions and Responsibilities of the Council.* – The
23 Council shall be responsible for the following:

24 (a) Formulation of the Malubal Falls Development Plan, in
25 consultation with local residents, businesses, and other
26 stakeholders;

1 (b) Assessment and evaluation of the potential impact of the
2 development to the environmental safety and well-being of the site,
3 communities, and enterprises;

4 (c) Provision of technical and financial assistance to
5 communities within the site;

6 (d) Formulation of rules and regulations in relation to the
7 maintenance and security of the ecotourism site; and

8 (e) Performance of other functions as may be necessary to
9 carry out the objectives of this Act.

10 SEC. 5. *Technical Assistance to the Council.* – The DOT,
11 Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and
12 the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) shall
13 provide technical assistance to the Council in the performance of its
14 functions and responsibilities.

15 SEC. 6. *Implementing Agencies.* – The DOT, in coordination
16 with the DENR, DPWH and other concerned agencies of the
17 government, shall be responsible for the planning, monitoring and
18 implementation of the approved Malubal Falls Development Plan.

19 SEC. 7. *Appropriations.* – The Secretaries of the DOT,
20 DENR and DPWH shall include in their respective Department's
21 program the implementation of the Malubal Falls Development
22 Plan, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General
23 Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.

24 SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act
25 shall be held unconstitutional, any other provision not otherwise
26 affected shall remain in full force and effect.

1 SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, rules, regulations,
2 proclamations, executive orders or parts thereof inconsistent with
3 the provisions of this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified
4 accordingly.

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

 Approved,

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