



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 7521

BY REPRESENTATIVES LANETE, NOGRALES (K.A.) AND BATOCABE, PER
COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 724

AN ACT DECLARING THE KALANAY FALLS AND ITS
PREMISES LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF
PALANAS, PROVINCE OF MASBATE AN ECOTOURISM
SITE, ESTABLISHING THE KALANAY FALLS
ECOTOURISM COUNCIL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR

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

1 SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as "Kalanay Falls
2 Ecotourism Act".

3 SEC. 2. It is hereby declared the policy of the State to
4 ensure the right of the people to a balanced and healthful
5 ecology through the promotion of activities designed to protect
6 and preserve the environment.

7 SEC. 3. The Kalanay Falls and its premises located in the
8 Municipality of Palanas, Province of Masbate is hereby declared
9 an ecotourism site. As such, the Department of Tourism (DOT)
10 shall incorporate this in the National Tourism Development Plan.

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1 SEC. 4. There is hereby created the Kalanay Falls Ecotourism
2 Council, hereinafter referred to as the Council, to be composed of
3 the local chief executive of the Municipality of Palanas, who shall sit
4 as the Chairperson of the Council, and one (1) representative each
5 from the following groups: accredited nongovernment organizations
6 and people's organizations engaged in ecotourism, recognized
7 indigenous people's federation, reputable travel organizations, and
8 the academe.

9 The local legislative body of the Municipality of Palanas shall
10 appoint the members of the Council. A member of the Council shall
11 serve a term of five (5) years, and their appointment may be
12 renewable for another term.

13 The DOT and the Department of Environment and Natural
14 Resources (DENR) shall assist the Council in its task of pursuing
15 the objectives of this Act.

16 SEC. 5. The Council shall have the following responsibilities:

17 (a) Study, adopt, and from time to time update an ecotourism
18 master plan and supervise the implementation of the corresponding
19 programs and activities therein;

20 (b) Assess and evaluate the potential impact of development
21 to the environmental safety and well-being of the site;

22 (c) Conduct consultations with the local residents of the site
23 to be affected by ecotourism development to assimilate their
24 cultural values and beliefs in the master plan and other programs;

25 (d) Provide technical and financial assistance to communities
26 in the site;

1 (e) Formulate rules and regulations which shall prohibit
2 illegal fishing and related activities; and

3 (f) Perform such other functions as may be necessary to carry
4 out the objectives of this Act.

5 SEC. 6. The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the
6 Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding
7 of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act
8 and internally generated funds of the DOT.

9 SEC. 7. If any part or provision of this Act shall be held
10 unconstitutional or invalid, other provisions which are not affected
11 thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

12 SEC. 8. All laws, issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with
13 this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,

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