CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS Third Regular Session

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## H. No. 8724

- BY REPRESENTATIVES CAGAS AND NOGRALES (K.A.), PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1003
- AN ACT DECLARING BARANGAY KAPATAGAN LOCATED IN THE CITY OF DIGOS, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL 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. This Act shall be known as the "Kapatagan
 Ecotourism Act".

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

SEC. 3. Barangay Kapatagan located in the City of Digos,
Province of Davao del Sur is declared an ecotourism site. As such,
the Department of Tourism (DOT) shall prioritize its development
subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of
ecotourism sites. The DOT shall likewise include Barangay
Kapatagan in all its national and local promotion programs.

1 The DOT, in coordination with the Tourism Infrastructure 2 and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA), shall prepare a 3 development plan that shall ensure the preservation and 4 conservation of the natural resources of the area. The plan 5 shall also include the construction and maintenance of necessary 6 facilities to enhance the ecotourism area.

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 DOT, in consultation with the Province of Davao del Sur and the
TIEZA, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the
proper implementation of this Act.

15 SEC. 6. All laws, rules, regulations, proclamations, executive 16 orders, and administrative regulations, or any part thereof, which 17 are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified 18 accordingly.

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,