



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 8996

BY REPRESENTATIVE CAGAS, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1174

AN ACT DECLARING THE PASSIG ISLET LOCATED IN
BARANGAY BATO, MUNICIPALITY OF STA. CRUZ,
PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL SUR AN AQUA-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. This Act shall be known as the "Passig Islet
2 Aqua-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
6 viable, and equitable for local communities.

7 SEC. 3. The Passig Islet located in Barangay Bato,
8 Municipality of Sta. Cruz, Province of Davao del Sur is declared
9 an aqua-ecotourism site. Its development shall be prioritized
10 by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to
11 the rules and regulations governing the development of the
12 aqua-ecotourism site.

1 The DOT, in coordination with the Tourism Infrastructure
2 and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA) and other concerned
3 agencies of government, shall prepare a development plan that
4 shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the natural
5 resources of the area. The plan shall likewise include the
6 construction and maintenance of necessary facilities to enhance
7 the aqua-ecotourism area and ensure optimum utilization of
8 assets and resources available.

9 SEC. 4. The Secretary of the DOT and the Chief Operating
10 Officer of the TIEZA shall include in their respective programs
11 the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall
12 be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and
13 internally generated funds of the DOT.

14 SEC. 5. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this
15 Act, the Secretary of the DOT, in consultation with the Province
16 of Davao del Sur and the TIEZA, shall promulgate the necessary
17 rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

18 SEC. 6. All laws, rules, regulations, executive orders,
19 proclamations and administrative regulations, or parts thereof,
20 which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or
21 modified accordingly.

22 SEC. 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
23 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general
24 circulation.

 Approved,