



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 8977

BY REPRESENTATIVE ZUBIRI, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1154

AN ACT DECLARING THE PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON A
TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AREA (TDA), CREATING
THE BUKIDNON 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. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the
2 “Bukidnon Tourism Development Area Act”.

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

8 SEC. 3. *Bukidnon Tourism Development Area, Scope and*
9 *Coverage.* – The Province of Bukidnon is declared a Tourism
10 Development Area (TDA), hereinafter to be referred to as the
11 Bukidnon TDA. As such, its development shall be prioritized by
12 the Department of Tourism (DOT), and shall be subject to the

1 rules and regulations governing the development of tourism
2 development areas.

3 The Bukidnon TDA shall cover all the municipalities of the
4 Province of Bukidnon. Any development that shall be undertaken
5 in ancestral domains and ancestral lands shall be with the consent
6 of the indigenous peoples in said areas.

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

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

24 The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), in
25 coordination with the DOT and the Bukidnon Provincial Tourism
26 Council, shall set in place the necessary construction and
27 improvement of roads and other infrastructure upon the

1 promulgation of this Act and incorporate the same in its
2 infrastructure program.

3 SEC. 5. *Bukidnon Provincial Tourism Council.* – The
4 Provincial Governor of Bukidnon shall create the Bukidnon
5 Provincial Tourism Council, hereinafter referred to as the “Council”,
6 which shall be composed of government and private sector
7 representatives.

8 The Council shall have the following functions:

9 (a) Formulate programs and recommendations to develop
10 local tourism facilities and attractions tapping local resources and
11 funds;

12 (b) Assist in the regulation and supervision of
13 tourism-oriented establishments thereby ensuring wholesome and
14 clean tourism activities;

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

19 (d) Enforce sanitary standard in public restrooms frequented
20 by constituents and tourists and those frequented by public utility
21 vehicles and tourist transport services, i.e. gasoline stations,
22 restaurants along main highways, and bus stops; and

23 (e) Perform other duties in accordance with the Department
24 of the Interior and Local Government’s (DILG) guidelines.

25 The Provincial Government of Bukidnon shall provide a
26 Secretariat for the Council, including the necessary expenses for the
27 performance of its official functions and activities.

1 SEC. 6. *Bukidnon Tourism Development Trust Fund.* – There
2 is hereby established a trust fund under this Act to be known as the
3 Bukidnon Tourism Development Trust Fund for the purpose of
4 financing projects which shall enhance tourism in the province. The
5 Trust Fund shall be administered by a Trust Fund Administrator
6 under the Bukidnon Tourism Office. Funds shall be derived from
7 fees collected from visitors/tourists, other resources from the
8 Province, proceeds from registration and lease of multiple-use areas,
9 including tourism concessions, fees, proceeds and contributions from
10 industries and facilities directly benefitting the Province.

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

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

24 SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act
25 or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held
26 invalid, the remainder of this Act, or the application of such

1 provision or part to other persons or circumstances, shall not be
2 affected thereby.

3 SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, parts of laws, decrees,
4 presidential issuances, proclamations, orders, ordinances, and
5 administrative regulations in conflict with the provisions of this Act
6 are hereby amended, modified or repealed accordingly.

7 SEC. 10. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
8 days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of
9 general circulation.

Approved,

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