



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 9138

BY REPRESENTATIVE TUPAS, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1296

AN ACT DECLARING THE ISLAS DE GIGANTES IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CARLES, PROVINCE OF ILOILO AN ECOTOURISM ZONE 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 "Islas de Gigantes
2 Ecotourism Zone 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 equitably beneficial to local communities.

7 SEC. 3. The Islas de Gigantes consisting of four (4)
8 barangays, namely: Asluman, Granada, Lantangan and Gabi
9 located in the Municipality of Carles, Province of Iloilo, is hereby
10 declared an ecotourism zone, to be known as Islas de Gigantes
11 Ecotourism Zone. As such, its development shall be prioritized by

1 the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules
2 and regulations governing the development of ecotourism zones.

3 Within six (6) months after the approval of this Act, the DOT,
4 in coordination with the Department of Environment and Natural
5 Resources (DENR), Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone
6 Authority (TIEZA) and the Municipality of Carles, shall prepare the
7 development plan for Islas de Gigantes and shall incorporate the
8 same in the National Tourism Development Plan.

9 The DOT, in coordination with the Municipality of Carles, the
10 DENR, the TIEZA and other concerned agencies of the government,
11 shall delineate well-defined geographic areas within the Islas de
12 Gigantes Ecotourism Zone and coordinate the integrated
13 development of the area for the optimum use of natural assets and
14 attractions. The development shall ensure the preservation of the
15 flora and fauna and perpetuate the historic significance of the
16 identified tourist attractions.

17 SEC. 4. The Secretaries of the DOT, DENR and the Chief
18 Operating Officer of the TIEZA shall include in their respective
19 programs the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall
20 be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and from
21 internally generated funds of the DOT.

22 SEC. 5. Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act,
23 the Secretary of the DOT, in consultation with the DENR, the
24 TIEZA and the Municipality of Carles, shall promulgate the
25 necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of
26 this Act.

1 SEC. 6. All laws, orders, decrees, rules and regulations and
2 other issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this
3 Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,

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