



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 5643

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BY REPRESENTATIVES RODRIGUEZ, ROMULO, OLIVAREZ, FORTUNO,  
ESCUADERO, DE VENECIA, BASCUG, CARI, ESPINA, ABUNDA,  
PANOTES, GUICO, TUTOR, BARBA, CASTELO, ANDAYA, SAULOG,  
BORDADO, GULLAS, FORTUN, MANGAOANG, RADAZA,  
GARCIA (V.) AND BENITEZ, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 97

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AN ACT DECLARING THE CAGAYAN DE ORO RIVER AND ITS  
IMMEDIATE ENVIRONS LOCATED IN CAGAYAN DE ORO  
CITY, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL A CULTURAL  
HERITAGE ZONE

*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 "Cagayan de Oro  
2 River Cultural Heritage Zone Act".

3           SEC. 2. It is the policy of the State to administer its  
4 heritage and natural resources in a spirit of stewardship  
5 for the inspiration and benefit of the present and future  
6 generations.

7           Towards this end, it shall be the duty of the State to  
8 conserve the natural diversity and integrity of the Cagayan de  
9 Oro River as well as its sites of historical and cultural importance.

10          SEC. 3. The Cagayan de Oro River and its immediate  
11 environs located in Cagayan de Oro City, Province of Misamis

1 Oriental is hereby declared a cultural heritage zone. As such,  
2 it shall be accorded priority development by the Department  
3 of Tourism (DOT), in coordination with the Department of  
4 Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the National  
5 Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), the City  
6 Government of Cagayan de Oro, and other concerned agencies  
7 of the government, and shall be subject to the rules and  
8 regulations governing the conservation and preservation of  
9 cultural heritage zones.

10 As used in this Act, cultural heritage zone refers to  
11 historical, anthropological, archaeological, artistic geographical  
12 areas and settings that are culturally significant to the country.

13 SEC. 4. Any activity that pollutes, destroys or adversely  
14 affects the archaeological, historical, cultural, ecological, and  
15 economic values of the Cagayan de Oro River and its immediate  
16 environs is prohibited.

17 SEC. 5. Any person or entity which shall cause destruction  
18 to the archaeological, historical, cultural, ecological, and economic  
19 values of the Cagayan de Oro River and its premises shall suffer  
20 a fine of not less than One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00)  
21 but not more than Five million pesos (P5,000,000.00) and an  
22 imprisonment of one (1) to five (5) years.

23 SEC. 6. The DOT, in coordination with the DENR,  
24 the NCCA, the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone  
25 Authority (TIEZA), the National Historical Commission of the  
26 Philippines (NHCP), the National Museum of the Philippines  
27 (NMP), the City Government of Cagayan de Oro, and other

1 concerned agencies of the government, shall immediately  
2 prepare the development plan involving the conservation,  
3 preservation, and development of Cagayan de Oro River  
4 Cultural Heritage Zone: *Provided*, That the development plan  
5 shall ensure the conservation and preservation of the Cagayan  
6 de Oro River and its environs and protect it from threats of  
7 pollution, industrialization, and other environmentally destructive  
8 human activities.

9 SEC. 7. The DENR shall conduct and execute a survey to  
10 determine the actual metes and bounds of the Cagayan de Oro  
11 River Cultural Heritage Zone.

12 SEC. 8. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of  
13 this Act, the DOT, in coordination with the DENR, the TIEZA,  
14 the NCCA, the NHCP, the NMP, the City Government of  
15 Cagayan de Oro, and other concerned agencies of the  
16 government, shall promulgate the necessary rules and  
17 regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

18 SEC. 9. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after  
19 its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of  
20 general circulation.

Approved,

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