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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 6448

By Representative Abueg-Zaldivar, per Committee Report No. 259

AN ACT DECLARING KAPANGYAN FALLS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BATARAZA, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN AN ECOTOURISM SITE, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. The Kapangyan Falls in the Municipality of Bataraza, Province of Palawan is hereby declared an ecotourism site. As such, its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

SEC. 2. Within one (1) year from the approval of this Act, the DOT, in coordination with the municipal government of Bataraza and concerned agencies of the government, shall prepare a tourism development plan containing, among others, the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and infrastructure that shall encourage tourism in the area: *Provided*,

That said development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the natural beauty and resources of the area.

- SEC. 3. The DOT shall take immediate steps to implement the development plan in a manner that will protect and enhance the natural characteristics of Kapangyan Falls, and shall incorporate the same in its tourism development program for the ensuing calendar year. It shall also include Kapangyan Falls in all its national, regional and local promotion programs.
- 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 from internally generated funds of the DOT.
- SEC. 5. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DOT shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.
- SEC. 6. All laws, rules, regulations, proclamations, executive orders or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended 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.