

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7259

Introduced by Representative Geraldine B. Roman

AN ACT
DECLARING BARANGAY TALA IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ORANI, PROVINCE
OF BATAAN, 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 "*Tala Ecotourism Zone Act*".

2 **Sec. 2.** It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote a tourism industry that is
3 ecologically sustainable, responsible, participative, culturally-sensitive, economically viable and
4 equitably beneficial to local communities.

5 **Sec. 3.** Barangay Tala in the Municipality of Orani, Province of Bataan is hereby
6 declared an ecotourism zone. Its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism
7 (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism
8 zones.

9 The DOT shall prepare the development plan for Barangay Tala and shall incorporate the
10 same in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic Act No.
11 9593, otherwise known as "*The Tourism Act of 2009*". The plan shall be implemented jointly
12 with the municipal government of Orani, the local Protected Area Management Board (PAMB),

1 the Bataan National Park (BNP) and the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority
2 (TIEZA).

3 The DOT, in coordination with the municipal government of Orani, PAMB, BNP,
4 TIEZA and other concerned agencies of the government, shall identify well-defined geographic
5 areas within the Barangay Tala ecotourism zone, which shall include the Bataan National Park
6 and existing infrastructure and facilities therein, and ensure the integrated development of these
7 areas for the optimum utilization of natural assets and attractions, as well as the preservation of
8 their historical significance.

9 **Sec. 4.** The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the
10 implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General
11 Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.

12 **Sec. 5.** Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DOT,
13 in consultation with the municipal government of Orani, PAMB, BNP, TIEZA and other tourism
14 stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation
15 of this Act.

16 **Sec. 6.** All laws, orders, decrees, rules and regulations and other issuances, or parts
17 thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

18 **Sec. 7.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*
19 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

20 Approved,