



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 7529

BY REPRESENTATIVE CABREDO, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 448

AN ACT
DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF JOVELLAR IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBAY
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.** The Municipality of Jovellar in the Province of Albay, famous for its
2 Sigpit/Quitinday Falls and underground river and caves, is hereby declared an ecotourism zone.
3 As such, its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to
4 the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism zones.

5 **Sec. 2.** Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the DOT, in coordination with
6 the municipal government of Jovellar, the Representative of the Third Congressional District of
7 Albay and other concerned agencies of the government, shall prepare a tourism development
8 plan containing, among others, the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate
9 facilities and infrastructure that shall encourage tourism in the area: *Provided*, That said
10 development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the natural beauty and the

1 indigenous flora and fauna therein. Further, the development plan shall include the formulation,
2 development and implementation of programs and strategies that will generate livelihood and
3 employment opportunities for the residents in the area.

4 **Sec. 3.** The DOT shall take immediate steps to implement the development plan and
5 incorporate the same in its tourism development program for the ensuing calendar year. It shall
6 also include the Municipality of Jovellar in all its national, regional and local promotion
7 programs.

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

11 **Sec. 5.** All laws, rules, regulations, proclamations, executive orders or parts thereof
12 inconsistent with this Act are hereby modified or amended accordingly.

13 **Sec. 6.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official
14 Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

15 Approved,