

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 8139

BY REPRESENTATIVE CAGAS, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 627

**AN ACT
DECLARING THE PASSIG ISLET LOCATED IN BARANGAY BATO,
MUNICIPALITY OF STA. CRUZ, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL SUR, AN
ECOTOURISM SITE, 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 Passig Islet Ecotourism Act."

2 **SEC. 2.** The Passig Islet located in Barangay Bato, Municipality of Sta. Cruz, Province
3 of Davao del Sur, is hereby declared an ecotourism site. As such, its development shall be
4 prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing
5 the development of ecotourism sites.

6 **SEC. 3.** Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the DOT shall prepare a
7 tourism development plan including the construction, installation and maintenance of such
8 appropriate facilities and infrastructure that shall enhance ecotourism in the area: *Provided*, That
9 said development plan shall ensure the preservation, conservation and optimum utilization of
10 available assets and resources in the area.

1 **SEC. 4.** The DOT shall take immediate steps to implement the development plan and
2 incorporate the same in its tourism development program for the ensuing calendar year. It shall
3 also include the Passig Islet in all its national, regional and local promotions programs.

4 **SEC. 5.** The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the
5 implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General
6 Appropriations Act and shall augment such allocation with internally generated funds of the
7 Department.

8 **SEC. 6.** Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOT, in consultation
9 with the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority and the provincial government of
10 Davao del Sur, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper
11 implementation of this Act.

12 **SEC. 7.** All laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, proclamations, presidential decrees
13 and other issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed
14 repealed or amended accordingly.

15 **SEC. 8.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*
16 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,