



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 10517

BY REPRESENTATIVES BASCUG, ARAGONES, VIOLAGO, GATO, GO (M.), MATUGAS, FARIÑAS (R.C.), EBCAS, BAÑAS-NOGRALES, DAGOOC, SAULOG, GUYA, SAVELLANO, ALBANO, BARBA, DY (F.), FRASCO, LOYOLA, SILVERIO AND ELAGO, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1329

**AN ACT
DECLARING THE TUGONAN WATERFALLS LOCATED IN BARANGAY SAN LORENZO, MUNICIPALITY OF PROSPERIDAD, PROVINCE OF AGUSAN 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.** The Tugonan Waterfalls located in Barangay San Lorenzo, Municipality
2 of Prosperidad, Province of Agusan del Sur, is hereby declared an ecotourism site. As such, its
3 development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and
4 regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

5 **SEC. 2.** Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the DOT shall, in coordination
6 with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and concerned local government
7 units (LGUs) and agencies of the government, prepare a tourism development plan that shall
8 include the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate infrastructure and
9 facilities to enhance tourism in the area: *Provided*, That said development plan shall ensure the
10 preservation and conservation of the natural beauty and resources of the area.

11 **SEC. 3.** The DOT shall take immediate steps to implement the development plan with
12 due consideration to the natural characteristics of the Tugonan Waterfalls, and shall incorporate

1 the same in its development program for the calendar year immediately succeeding the
2 approval of this Act. It shall also include the Tugonan Waterfalls in all its national, regional
3 and local promotion programs.

4 **SEC. 4.** 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. 5.** Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOT shall, in
9 consultation with the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority and concerned
10 LGUs and government agencies, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper
11 implementation of this Act.

12 **SEC. 6.** If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the
13 other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

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15 inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended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

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

Approved,