



'22 OCT 24 P2 :26

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

RECEIVED BY: _____

SENATE
S.B. No. 1412

Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

AN ACT
DECLARING PILIS FALLS IN BARANGAY PALILI, MUNICIPALITY OF SAMAL,
PROVINCE OF BATAAN AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 16, Article II, of the 1987 Constitution provides that *"the State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature."*

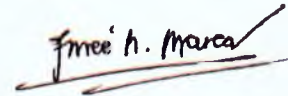
Pilis falls is situated in Barangay Palili, Samal, Bataan. North-east of Mount Nagpali, its water cascades down a tall, sloping rock. Pilis Falls, which rises to a height of about 120 feet, is distinguished by its extraordinary natural landslides creation and the adjacent area is covered in an intact forest with multi-strata dipterocarp species.

Pilis Falls has the potential to attract tourists around the world. It offers a range of attractions, including stunning mountains, an abundance of flora and fauna, and opportunities for mountaineers and visitors to engage in ecotourism pursuits including hiking, bird watching, swimming, picnics, and nature photography.

Hence, this bill seeks to declare Pilis Falls as an eco-tourism site in the Municipality of Samal, Province of Bataan. Thus, the developments of the Pilis Falls into an eco-tourism site will not only enhance its aesthetic value but will also bring economic

benefits for the people of Bataan and the whole country as well. This bill was approved on third reading and was transmitted to the Senate during the 18th Congress.

For the abovementioned reasons, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Imee R. Marcos". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single red line.

IMEE R. MARCOS



22 OCT 24 P2 :26

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

RECEIVED BY:

SENATE
S.B. No. 1412

Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

AN ACT
DECLARING PILIS FALLS IN BARANGAY PALILI, MUNICIPALITY OF SAMAL,
PROVINCE OF BATAAN 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. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as "*Pilis Falls Ecotourism*
2 *Act.*"

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

7
8 **SEC 3.** The Pilis Falls in Barangay Palili, Municipality of Samal, Province of
9 Bataan is hereby declared an ecotourism site. Its development shall be prioritized by
10 the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations
11 governing the development of ecotourism sites.

12
13 The DOT shall prepare and incorporate the development plan for Pilis Falls in
14 the overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic Act No.
15 9593, otherwise known as "*The Tourism Act of 2009*". The plan shall be implemented
16 jointly with the Municipality of Samal, the local Protected Area Management Board
17 (PAMB), the Bataan National Park (BNP) and the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise
18 Zone Authority (TIEZA).

19
20 The DOT, in coordination with the municipality government of Samal, the local
21 PAMB, BNP, TIEZA and other concerned agencies of the government, shall identify

1 well-defined geographic areas within Pilis Falls ecotourism site and coordinate the
2 integrated development of these areas, including existing infrastructure and facilities,
3 for optimum utilization of natural assets and attractions; *Provided*, That the
4 development to be undertaken shall ensure the preservation of the scenery and the
5 historic significance of the identified tourist attractions.

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

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 internally generated funds of the DOT.

SEC 5. Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DOT, in consultation with the municipality government of Samal, the local PAMB, BNP, TIEZA and other tourism stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

SEC 6. All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, rules and regulations and other issuances contrary to or inconsistent with this Act shall be deemed repealed or modified 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,