



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**H. No. 5169**

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BY REPRESENTATIVES GONZALES (A.), MADRONA, CHATTO, ANGARA, ALVAREZ (J.), LUISTRO, RILLO, CHAN, AGARAO, ALMARIO, AUMENTADO, MATUGAS, SINGSON (R.), EMANO, GARCIA (M.A.), SALI, HORIBATA, ZAMORA (M.C.), DELOS SANTOS, ABUNDA, LAGON (D.), MANQUIZ, OUANO-DIZON, TUTOR, GO (E.C.), BUHAIN, CAGAS, TUPAS, GO (M.), GORRICETA, DALOG, YU (J.V.), CRUZ (R.), GATO, LIMKAICHONG, ESCUDERO, CARI, YU (D.G.), SALVAME, SACDALAN, KHO (R.), LEGARDA, GULLAS, MIGUEL, ALONTE, PLEYTO, GUTIERREZ, MAGSINO, PADIERNOS, FRASCO, HERRERA, ALBANO, BASCUG, CABREDO, CHUNGALAO, COLLANTES, CUARESMA, KHO (O.), LOYOLA, MARIANO-HERNANDEZ, NAVA, OLIVAREZ, PLAZA, RODRIGUEZ (R.), SILVERIO AND SUANSING (M.A.), PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 58

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**AN ACT**

**DECLARING MOUNT ARAYAT LOCATED ALONG THE BORDERS OF THE MUNICIPALITIES OF ARAYAT AND MAGALANG, PROVINCE OF PAMPANGA, AN ECOTOURISM DESTINATION**

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:*

- 1           **SECTION 1.** Mount Arayat, located along the borders of the Municipalities of Arayat  
2 and Magalang, Province of Pampanga, is hereby declared an ecotourism destination. As such,  
3 its development shall be prioritized and supported by the Department of Tourism (DOT),  
4 subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism destinations.

1           **SEC. 2.** Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the municipal governments  
2 of Arayat and Magalang shall, in coordination with the DOT, Department of Environment  
3 and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Public Works and Highways, the provincial  
4 government of Pampanga and concerned agencies of the government, prepare a tourism  
5 development plan that shall include the construction, installation and maintenance of such  
6 appropriate infrastructure and facilities to enhance ecotourism in the area and ensure its  
7 accessibility and the security of tourists: *Provided*, That said development plan shall ensure  
8 the preservation and conservation of the natural beauty and resources of the area: *Provided*  
9 *further*, That the implementation of the tourism development plan shall be included in the  
10 budget of the municipal governments of Arayat and Magalang.

11           **SEC. 3.** The DOT shall assist the municipal governments of Arayat and Magalang in  
12 the implementation of the tourism development plan by providing technical assistance in  
13 tourism capacity building. It shall also include Mount Arayat in all its national and regional  
14 promotion programs.

15           **SEC. 4.** The funding for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual  
16 budget of the municipal governments of Arayat and Magalang. The DOT may augment such  
17 allocation with internally-generated funds.

18           **SEC. 5.** Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the municipal  
19 governments of Arayat and Magalang shall, in consultation with the DOT, DENR, provincial  
20 government of Pampanga and concerned agencies of the government, promulgate rules and  
21 regulations to implement this Act.

22           For this purpose, they shall have the power and authority to create a Secretariat and  
23 Technical Working Group (TWG) to assist them in the drafting of the necessary rules and  
24 regulations: *Provided*, That the provincial government of Pampanga shall defray the

1 necessary expenses of the Secretariat and the TWG for the performance of their official  
2 functions and activities.

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

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

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

Approved,