



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 5966

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BY REPRESENTATIVES PLAZA, BASCUG, 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, GONZALES (A.), FRASCO, HERRERA, ALBANO, CABREDO, CHUNGALAO, COLLANTES, CUARESMA, KHO (O.), LOYOLA, MARIANO-HERNANDEZ, NAVA, OLIVAREZ, RODRIGUEZ (R.), SILVERIO AND SUANSING (M.A.), PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 152

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**AN ACT  
DECLARING THE PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL SUR AS THE HOME OF THE  
GOLDEN TARA**

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

1           **SECTION 1.** It is the policy of the State to preserve the country's cultural artifacts  
2 and promote its rich history and cultural heritage.

3           The Province of Agusan del Sur is hereby declared as the Home of the Golden Tara, a  
4 21-karat gold statuette of a female Hindu deity that dates back to the 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> centuries and  
5 was found in 1917 on the banks of the Wawa River in the Municipality of Esperanza,  
6 Province of Agusan del Sur. Presently on display in the Field Museum of Natural History in  
7 Chicago, United States of America, it is considered a testament to the rich cultural heritage of

1 the Province of Agusan del Sur and its commercial and cultural ties with Southeast Asian  
2 states before the Spanish colonial period.

3           **SEC. 2.** The Department of Tourism (DOT) shall feature the Golden Tara and the rich  
4 cultural heritage of the Province of Agusan del Sur in its national and regional promotion  
5 programs.

6           **SEC. 3.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*  
7 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,