



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 7360

BY REPRESENTATIVES DIMAPORO (S.A.), DIMAPORO (M.K.), BULUT-BEGTANG AND CO (E.),
PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 355

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING AN ARBORETUM IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TAGOLOAN,
LANAO DEL NORTE, TO BE KNOWN AS THE MIGHTY CAVE PARK
ARBORETUM, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **SECTION 1.** There is hereby established an arboretum with an area of approximately
2 two hundred (200) hectares and which shall include the Mighty Cave Park in the Municipality of
3 Tagoloan, Lanao del Norte to be known as the *Mighty Cave Park Arboretum*, hereinafter
4 referred to as the Arboretum.

5 As used in this Act, the term *arboretum* refers to a reserved area which is essentially for a
6 well-grown and representative collection of trees, shrubs and herbs planted and maintained for
7 the purpose of reference, scientific studies and as a convenient source of seeds and herbarium
8 materials.

9 **SEC. 2.** The Arboretum shall serve the following purposes:

10 a) To aid in the study and teaching of dendrology, phenology, botany, biology and
11 other related fields of study by being utilized as an outdoor laboratory by both faculty and
12 students of nearby schools;

1 b) To serve as a sanctuary for the preservation and conservation of genetic resources
2 of trees, shrubs and herbs, and as a model for environmentally sound landscape management;

3 c) To provide an area wherein the best species of indigenous woody plants can be
4 propagated and where new species, can be introduced and be allowed to thrive in the locality;

5 d) To provide a healthy and conducive area for recreation and at the same time enhance
6 the consciousness of the community to preserve and protect the environment; and

7 e) To serve as a habitat for a variety of amphibians, reptiles, birds, small mammals, and
8 other wildlife in the area.

9 **SEC. 3.** The Arboretum shall conform to the following considerations:

10 a) The trees shall be planted in rows following the contour of the land area;

11 b) At least five (5) replicates of each specie shall be planted to ensure its preservation;
12 and

13 c) Each tree specie shall be numbered, labelled and tagged with its scientific name,
14 common or local name, and the date and place of collection.

15 **SEC. 4.** To ensure the growth of the species to be planted:

16 a) The seedling of every specie to be planted shall be of high quality, and shall be
17 selected at least twelve (12) months prior to planting, in consultation with the nearest office of
18 the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR);

19 b) Proper site preparation shall be done prior to planting, to include brushing/slashing,
20 staking, digging of hole, plowing and/or cultivation;

21 c) In case of mortality, the replanting of the respective specie shall be undertaken; and

22 d) Planting shall be done at the onset of the rainy season.

23 **SEC. 5.** The Arboretum shall be placed under the overall management and supervision of
24 the DENR. The DENR Secretary shall appoint a Superintendent of the Arboretum who, together

1 with a staff to be provided by the DENR from among its staff, shall ensure the proper
2 management of the Arboretum.

3 **SEC. 6.** An Oversight Committee is hereby created to oversee and monitor the
4 development and operation of the Arboretum to be composed of the following:

5 a) DENR Secretary or a duly designated representative as Chairperson;

6 b) Provincial Governor of the Province of Lanao del Norte or a duly designated
7 representative, as co-Chairperson;

8 c) Mayor of the Municipality of Tagoloan as Vice-Chairperson;

9 d) President of the League of Municipal Mayors of Lanao del Norte or the Vice-President
10 thereof if the Mayor of Tagoloan is the President of the League, as member; and

11 e) One (1) member to be appointed by the DENR Secretary from among three (3)
12 recommendees of the Provincial Governor.

13 **SEC. 7.** The Arboretum may accept donations from government agencies or local and
14 foreign private entities.

15 **SEC. 8.** The DENR Secretary shall include in the Department's program the
16 implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General
17 Appropriations Act.

18 The local government units concerned shall set aside from any available local revenue an
19 amount deemed appropriate as annual counterpart fund to support the operation of the
20 Arboretum herein established.

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

Approved,