

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

First Regular Session
THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

House Bill No. 456



Introduced by Rep. Manuel "Way Kurat" E. Zamora

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article XII, Section 2, paragraph 1 of the Constitution of the Republic states that "xxx The exploration, development and utilization of natural resources shall be under the full control and supervision of the State xxx." Economic development should therefore come with the realization that our country is a wholesome place to live in as it is blessed with exhilarating natural wonders. Their full utilization and development, therefore, is an integral part of any progress to be made.

This bill proposes to develop Tagbibinta Falls in Barangay Coronobe, Maragusan, Compostela Valley Province into a world class tourist destination. The falls can be found within the tourism zone delineated by the PTA and easily accessible as it is only six kilometers from the core of the municipality.

The wonder consists of seven scintillating waterfalls overlooking the entire Compostela Valley. It stands 5,248 feet above sea level. With these features, the waterfalls will surely fetch huge sums for the government if fully developed. It is also expected that the upsurge of foreign and domestic tourists visiting the area will dramatically boost the employment opportunities of the locals. If these are to be realized, it is required that major infrastructure works such as the construction of cottages, comfort rooms and recreational facilities as well as the introduction of an effective drainage system and the concreting of the road leading to the falls; need to be done to certify the viability of the attraction.

This bill was passed on third reading by the House of Representatives during the 11th Congress but it was stalled in the Senate. Likewise, the 12th Congress was not able to pass the measure because of time constraints.

Approval of the bill is respectfully sought.

MANUEL "WAY KURAT" E. ZAMORA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Manuel Way Kurat E. Zamora", written over a circular stamp.

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AN ACT
DECLARING THE TAGBIBINTA FALLS AND ITS PREMISES LOCATED IN
BARANGAY CORONOBÉ, MARAGUSAN, COMPOSTELA VALLEY PROVINCE AS A
TOURIST SPOT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Tagbibinta Falls and its premises located in Barangay Coronobe, Maragusan, Compostela Valley Province, is hereby declared as a tourist spot. As such, it shall be accorded priority development by the Department of Tourism and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of tourist spots.

SEC. 2. The Department of Tourism, in coordination with the Philippine Tourism Authority and other concerned agencies of the government, shall, within one year after the approval of this Act, prepare the development plan involving the construction, installation and/or maintenance of such appropriate facilities which shall enhance tourism in the area; Provided, that said development plan shall ensure the preservation of the natural beauty and historical significance thereof.

SEC. 3. The Department of Tourism shall take the immediate steps to implement said development plan and incorporate the same in the Department's overall tourism development program for the ensuing calendar year.

SEC. 4. The Department of Tourism shall likewise promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of the Act.

SEC. 5. The Secretary of the Department of Tourism shall include in the department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be charged against the internally generated funds of the Philippine Tourism Authority and/or the appropriations under the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,