

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2165



Introduced by Honorable Elias C. Bulut, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to provide an initial step towards the transformation of what used to be a haven of communist insurgents into a tourist destination.

Marag Valley in the Province of Apayao is more popularly known as one of the last frontiers of the communist insurgency in Northern Luzon. Unknown to many however, is the fact that said valley is one of the remaining areas in the country that have managed to preserve its verdant, lush virgin forest which to date serve as a sanctuary to a wide array of species of flora and fauna. Likewise enclosed in the valley's domain are numerous scenic spots which all the more add to the beauty of the place.

Owing to such features the valley has, it is considered as a potential eco-tourism destination. Thus, in line with the province's goal of generating additional resources for the development of Apayao through a sustainable utilization of its resources, this proposed measure is being submitted for consideration. Favorable action on this measure would constitute a major contribution to the development of Apayao and its people.

In view of these considerations, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


ELIAS C. BULUT, JR.

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2165

Introduced by Honorable Elias C. Bulut, Jr.

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A TOURISM RESORT COMPLEX IN MARAG VALLEY,
PROVINCE OF APAYAO AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established, under the supervision of the Department of Tourism, a tourism resort complex in Marag Valley, Province of Apayao;

SECTION 2. The Department of Tourism, in coordination with the Philippine Tourism Authority and other concerned agencies of the national government shall prepare and carry out the development plan for the complex and cause the construction of the appropriate facilities and infrastructure for said resort complex, subject to tourism standards: *Provided*, That said development plan shall ensure the preservation of the ecological balance and natural beauty of the area;

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

SECTION 4. The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged against the appropriations of the Department of Tourism under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary for the operation,

maintenance of the tourism resort complex shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 5. The Department of Tourism shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the implementation of this Act.

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

APPROVED,