

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Philippines

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL 2166



Introduced by Honorable Elias C. Bulut, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare the municipality of Calanasan, province of Apayao as tourist zone.

The municipality, with its geographical features and climate comparable to Baguio City and Sagada Mountain Province, is a potential eco-tourism destination. The town's lush forest cover, mountainous terrains, crystal-clear river systems, waterfalls of varying sizes, and a climate as refreshing as that of Baguio City and Tagaytay city are considered as its main offerings. Mountain climbing, hiking, mountain-biking, swimming and kayaking, are some activities which tourists could indulge in the municipality.

Maximizing the tourism potential of the municipality however hinges on the need to come up with the appropriate development plan involving the construction and installation of the necessary facilities to establish the municipality as a tourist destination. Considering the potential impact of this bill's approval to the development of the Province of Apayao, presently one of the 20 identified poorest province in the country, the approval of this bill is thus earnestly sought.


ELIAS C. BULUT, JR.

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AN ACT
DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF CALANASAN, PROVINCE OF
APAYAO, A TOURIST ZONE PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

SECTION 1. The municipality of Calanasan, Province of Apayao is hereby declared a tourist zone. As such, it shall be accorded with priority development by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of tourist spots.

SECTION 2. The Department of Tourism, in coordination with the municipality of Calanasan, Province of Apayao, the Representative of the Lone District and other concerned agencies of the government shall, within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, prepare a master development plan involving the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and infrastructure as shall enhance tourism in the area; Provided, that said development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the natural resources and historical significance of the area.

SECTION 3. The Department of Tourism shall take immediate steps in implementing the tourism development plan that will suit the natural characteristic of the zone and shall incorporate the same in its overall development plans and programs for national implementation.

SECTION 4. The DOT shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

SECTION 5. It shall be also the responsibility of the DOT to promote the zone as a tourism area in all its national, regional and local promotion programs.

SECTION 6. Foreign grants, when necessary, will be sourced by the agency concerned to bolster the potentials of the zone in order to attract foreign and domestic tourists.

SECTION 7. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriation Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SECTION 8. All laws, rules regulations, proclamations, executive orders or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act, are hereby amended accordingly.

SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,