

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 2300

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INTRODUCED BY HON. FLORENCIO T. MIRAFLORES

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

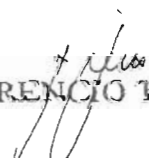
This bill seeks to declare certain parcels and portions of Boracay Island in the Municipality of Malay, Province of Aklan as general tourism development areas and as alienable and disposable, authorizing the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to conduct cadastral proceedings and appropriate funds therefore.

While the intent and spirit of Proclamation 1801 was to ensure that the country's marine resources are properly developed and maintained, present realities in many of the islands, coves and peninsulas covered by the proclamation, present a saddening, if not alarming scenario. Many of the tourist zones and marine resources covered by the proclamation suffered abuse and the very reason for the issuance of the proclamation - that of preserving and enhancing ecological balance - was defeated. The island of Boracay, which is covered by the proclamation, will go this way, if efforts are not made to address these serious concerns.

At present, the issue of absence of private titles to areas being occupied and developed by private persons have resulted to unbalanced growth and is not conducive to the adherence to a comprehensive development plan. This proposed bill then seeks to designate Boracay Island as a tourist zone, whereby particular areas can be designed as general tourism areas and other areas for private ownership and development. With a coherent and cohesive zoning, the island can be further developed for all the potentials that it could attain.

Land titling in favor of the occupants who are private sector developers is one such incentive as these lands, if put under the Torrens system, can now be used as collateral for loans for the further development of the designated areas. With further development and resultant increase in tourist arrivals, further economic activities will be generated and prosperity will be created even to the mainland Aklan province.

In view of the foregoing premises, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
FLORENCIO T. MIRAFLORES

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AN ACT

DECLARING CERTAIN PARCELS OF LAND AND PORTIONS OF BORACAY ISLAND, MUNICIPALITY OF MALAY, PROVINCE OF AKLAN AS GENERAL TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AREAS AND AS ALIENABLE AND DISPOSABLE LANDS, AUTHORIZING THE BUREAU OF LANDS TO INITIATE THE CONDUCT OF CADASTRAL PROCEEDINGS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

SECTION 1. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources through the Bureau of Lands, pursuant to the provisions of Presidential Decree Number 1529, as amended, shall initiate the conduct of a cadastral survey of all lands within Boracay Island for purpose of determining the areas that are to be delineated as a General Tourism Development Areas, designating the Province of Aklan [Philippine Tourism Authority] as the registered owner thereof and as alienable and disposable which are subject to legitimate rights occupants thereon pursuant to the Public Land Act.

SEC 2. Such amount as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its approval.

SEC 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,