

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2664

Introduced by Rep. ROBERTO C. CAJES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Eco-tourism has become the flagship of Bohol's economic development.

In the northeast corridor of the Province of Bohol, there is an idyllic island popularly known for its pristine beauty and grandeur – the CABUL-AN ISLAND of Island of Buenavista, Bohol.

Cabul-an Island is located in the heart of the Bohol Strait, overlooking the navigable Olango Channel separating the provinces of Cebu and Bohol.

Because of its strategic location, beauty, white beaches and colorful corral reefs, Cabul-an Island has been a favorite island hopping destination of foreign tourists staying at the Shangri-la Hotel, Cebu's most modern resort in Lapu-lapu City just across Olango Channel, and other Hotel facilities therein.

The tourism potentials of Cabul-an Island cannot, however, be fully developed because it is still classified as a wilderness despite the fact that there is no more any forest's trees and wildlife in the island. Thus, it is necessary to declare the island as a tourism zone to release it from the wildlife classification of the public domain in order to fully develop the island as a tourism zone.

Approval of this bill is, therefore, earnestly urged.

Rep. ROBERTO C. CAJES

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to be "Roberto C. Cajés", written over the printed name.

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**AN ACT DECLARING THE CABUL-AN ISLAND IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF
BUENAVISTA, PROVINCE OF BOHOL, A TOURISM ZONE**

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

SECTION 1. The Cabul-an Island in the Municipality of Buenavista, Province of Bohol, is hereby declared a tourism zone. 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 tourism zones.

SECTION 2. The Department of Tourism, in coordination with the Philippine Tourism Authority and other concerned agencies of the government shall, within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, prepare a 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 of the natural resources and historical significance of the area.

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

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

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect 15 days after its publication in the Official Gazette.

Approved,