

**Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila**

Thirteenth Congress
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2902



Introduced by Honorable Catalino V. Figueroa

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare and develop the Municipality of Hinabangan, Province of Samar as a tourist zone.

The Municipality of Hinabangan is blessed in the sense that it is located near a forested area where spring water flows continuously in large quantities throughout the year. The area has all the potentials of a tourism center. Due to financial constraints however, the full development of the municipality as a tourist zone cannot be implemented. For this purpose, it is imperative that the government should step in.

The development of Hinabangan as a tourist area is in accordance with the declared policy of the State to promote, encourage, and develop tourism as a major national activity through which socio-economic development may be accelerated and foreign exchange earned.

Approval of this bill is highly recommended.


CATALINO V. FIGUEROA

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**AN ACT
DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF HINABANGAN, PROVINCE OF SAMAR
AS A TOURIST ZONE,
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 Hinabangan, Province of Samar is hereby declared a Tourist Zone and shall be accorded priority development by the Department of Tourism.

SECTION 2. The Philippine Tourism Authority, in consultation with the Department of Public Works and Highways, shall prepare, within one year from the approval of this Act, a tourism development plan for the Municipality of Hinabangan, Province of Samar. The development plan shall provide for the construction and installation of such appropriate facilities and infrastructure as shall encourage tourism in the area and shall be submitted for final approval to the Department of Tourism prior to its implementation.

SECTION 3. Upon the approval by the Department of Tourism of the tourism development plan for the Municipality of Hinabangan, Province of Samar, it shall take immediate steps to expedite the implementation thereof and, for the purpose, shall incorporate the same in the Department's overall tourism development program for the ensuing calendar year.

SECTION 4. The amount necessary for the development of the Municipality of Hinabangan, Province of Samar as a tourist zone and for the construction and installation of such appropriate facilities and infrastructure shall be charged to the appropriations for the Department of Tourism under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary for the operation and maintenance of the tourist zone shall be included in the annual budget of the Municipality of Hinabangan.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,