



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



Thirteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3716

Introduced by Honorable Remedios "Matin" L. Petilla

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish a tourism office in every municipality nationwide.

From Batanes to Jolo, our country is blessed with awesome natural scenic spots. The abundance of flora and fauna, the pristine beaches, the exotic wild animals, hidden valleys, historical places and edifices, not to mention the warmth and ready smiles of Filipinos... these are just some of the numerous beautiful "must-see" things in the Philippines. Our country is by far a better tourist destination than our Asian neighbors not only because of its picturesque spots but also because of our communication skills... we can be readily understood by tourists.

Unfortunately, what has been done by the Department of Tourism, thus far, in marketing our country is not enough. There must be a local tourism office in every municipality so that local folks who know the place best will be able to advertise their own culture and heritage. In the process, the local government units will be able to improve and develop their areas all the more to suit the tastes of tourists. Tourism will then become the engine of growth of the economy of each community.

Early approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

REMEDIOS "MATIN" L. PETILLA



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**AN ACT
CREATING A LOCAL TOURISM OFFICE IN EVERY
MUNICIPALITY THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY**

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established a local tourism office in every municipality throughout the country.

SEC. 2. The local tourism office shall be operated by the local government unit concerned.

SEC. 3. The Department of Tourism, in coordination with the Department of Interior and Local Government, shall issue such rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 4. The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be taken from the appropriations for the Department of Interior and Local Government under the current General Appropriations Act.



Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary for the continued operation of the local tourism office shall be included in the annual budget of the local government unit concerned.

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

Approved,