

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2759



Introduced by *Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo*

EXPLANATORY NOTE

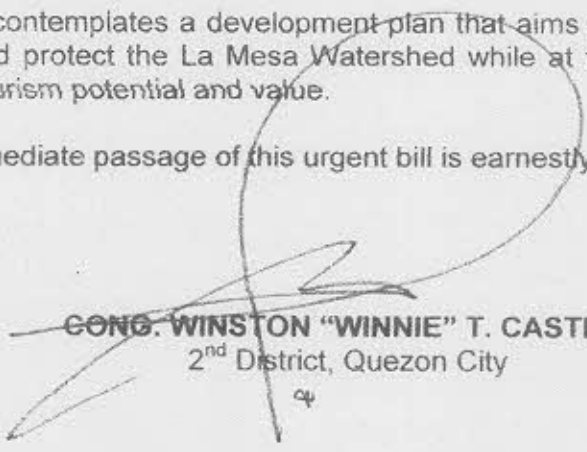
A tourist spot brings to mind ideas of picnic spots with grilling facilities, paddle boat ride in a lagoon (ala Baguio's Burnham Park), fitness trail with exercise stations, mountain bike trails along forested lanes, flower terraces and the like.

The present La Mesa Dam Eco-Park reflects all these amenities.

Simply visiting La Mesa Dam Eco-Park is already equivalent to saving the La Mesa Watershed which is also the primary source of drinking water for about 12 million Metro Manila residents. It consists of 2,000 hectares of surrounding forest and 700 hectares of reservoir and its forests serve as lungs of Metro Manila providing clean air.

This bill, thus, contemplates a development plan that aims to rehabilitate, reforest, preserve, and protect the La Mesa Watershed while at the same time promote its highest tourism potential and value.

Hence, the immediate passage of this urgent bill is earnestly sought.


GONG WINSTON "WINNIE" T. CASTELO
2nd District, Quezon City

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AN ACT
DECLARING LA MESA DAM ECOPARK IN BARANGAY FAIRVIEW,
QUEZON CITY AS A TOURIST SPOT AND DESTINATION
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. La Mesa Dam Eco-Park in Barangay Fairview, Quezon City is hereby declared a tourist spot. As such, it shall be accorded priority development by the Department of Tourism, subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of tourist spots.

SEC. 2. The Department of Tourism, in coordination with the Philippine Tourism Authority and other concerned agencies of government shall, within one (1) year from 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 said area, provided, that said development plan shall ensure the preservation of the natural beauty and historical significance of the area.

SEC. 3. The Department of Tourism shall take immediate steps to implement said development plan and shall incorporate the same in the Department's overall tourism development program for the year following the approval of this Act.

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

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

Approved,