

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



Sixteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4127

Introduced by HONORABLE CARLOS M. PADILLA

This Bill seeks to declare the Capisaan Cave System located in the Municipality of Kasibu, Province of Nueva Vizcaya, as a tourist destination.

The Municipality of Kasibu lies on the boundaries of Nueva Vizcaya and Quirino Provinces and boasts of the Capisaan Cave. Considered the fifth longest cave system in the Philippines, the Capisaan Cave is located some 700-900 meters above sea level. It is one of the attractions in the Province of Nueva Vizcaya located in Barangay Capisaan, Municipality of Kasibu. Also known as the Lion-Alayan Cave, the Capisaan Cave system has two main entry and exit points, the Lion and Alayan Caves.

The Capisaan Cave system was discovered by cave enthusiasts when they stumbled upon the cave in search for alternative tourist destinations after the Salinas Salt Springs in Bambang town were badly damaged during the 1990 killer earthquake. Various cave enthusiasts have campaigned to bring the wonders of the Capisaan Cave system to the attention of the international tourism community. However, despite numerous groups having visited the Capisaan Cave system, its immense formations untouched, the cave system is still considered pristine and intact. Aside from its formations, its forest cover is also home to various flora and fauna that manage to effectively provide a perfect balance to the ecosystem.

This bill seeks to improve local tourism in the Province of Nueva Vizcaya by highlighting one of its wonders that is the Capisaan Cave System and declaring it as a tourist destination. It mandates the preparation of a comprehensive development plan by the Department of Tourism to include the construction, rehabilitation and

installation of appropriate facilities to manage the Capisaan Cave System while ensuring the conservation and protection of its immediate environment.

Immediate approval of this bill is sought in view of the State policy of enhancing tourism in aid of economic development.



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**AN ACT DECLARING THE CAPISAAN CAVE SYSTEM IN THE MUNICIPALITY
OF KASIBU, PROVINCE OF NUEVA VIZCAYA AS A TOURIST DESTINATION,
PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR.**

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

SECTION 1. The Capisaan Cave System, is hereby declared a tourist destination. As such it shall be accorded with priority development by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and other concerned agencies and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of tourist destinations.

SECTION 2. The Department of Tourism, in coordination with the local government units and other concerned agencies of the government shall, within one (!) 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 and conservation of the natural resources of the area.

SECTION 3. The Department of Tourism shall take immediate steps in implementing the tourism development plan that will suit the natural characteristics of the Capisaan Cave System and shall incorporate the same in its overall development plans and programs for national implementation.

SECTION 4. It shall also be the responsibility of the DOT to promote the Capisaan Cave System as tourism area in all its national, regional and local promotion programs.

SECTION 5. The DOT shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

SECTION 6. The Secretary of the Department of Tourism shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be charged against the internally-generated funds of the Philippine Tourism Authority and/or the appropriations in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 7. All laws, rules, regulations, proclamations, executive orders or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act shall be deemed amended accordingly.

SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

Approved.