

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

Sixteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4998

Introduced by **Hon. Frederick F. Abueg**

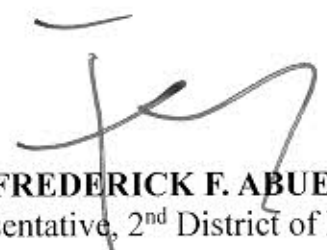
EXPLANATORY NOTE

The proposed bill seeks to declare Mainit Falls and Hot Springs located in Barangay Mainit, Municipality of Brooke's Point, Palawan as tourist destination. Mainit Falls and Hot Springs are located ten (10) kilometers away from the town proper. It will take approximately thirty (30) minutes by car to reach the place.

Waters from Mainit Falls descent at a height of fifty (50) meters into a natural pool. The falls serve as a source of drinking water to the residents living near the area. It also irrigates neighboring rice fields. On the other hand, Mainit Hotsprings, which is located a few meters from the waterfalls, is known for its medicinal property. Its sulfuric waters became known not only to local residents but also to foreign visitors. The *Trogonoptera Trojana*, a species of butterflies that is endemic to Palawan, is also abundant in the area.

While the tourism potential of the area is being encouraged by the local government, it is undeniable that national help, through the Department of Tourism, will further improve tourism in the locality.

In view of the policy of the State to promote tourism industry as an indispensable element to national economy and as declared in Republic Act 9593, otherwise known as "The Tourism Act of 2009," the approval of this bill is earnestly recommended.


FREDERICK F. ABUEG
Representative, 2nd District of Palawan

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AN ACT

**DECLARING MAINIT FALLS AND HOT SPRINGS IN THE MUNICIPALITY
OF BROOKE'S POINT, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN AS TOURIST
DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1 SECTION 1. The Mainit Falls and Hot Springs located in Barangay
2 Mainit, Brooke's Point, Palawan is hereby declared tourist destination. As such,
3 it shall be accorded with priority development by the Department of Tourism
4 (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the
5 development of tourist destination.

6 SEC. 2. The Department of Tourism, in accordance with the local
7 government units and other concerned agencies of the government shall, within
8 one (1) year after the approval of this Act, prepare a development plan involving
9 the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and
10 infrastructure as shall enhance tourism in the area; *Provided*, That said
11 development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the natural
12 resources of the area.

1 SEC. 3. The Department of Tourism shall take immediate steps in
2 implementing the tourism development plan that will suit the natural
3 characteristic of Mainit Falls and Hot Springs and shall incorporate the same in
4 its overall development plans and programs for national implementation.

5 SEC. 4. It shall also be the responsibility of the DOT to promote Mainit
6 Falls and Hot Springs as tourism area in all its national, regional and local
7 promotion programs.

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

10 SEC. 6. The Secretary of the Department of Tourism shall include in the
11 Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall
12 be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its
13 enactment into law and thereafter.

14 SEC. 7. All laws, rules, regulations, proclamations, executive orders or
15 parts thereof inconsistent with this Act, are hereby amended accordingly.

16 SEC. 8. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

 Approved,