



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



Sixteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **5037**

Introduced by Honorable Herminia B. Roman

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare Pilis Falls as an eco-tourism site in the Municipality of Samal, Province of Bataan.

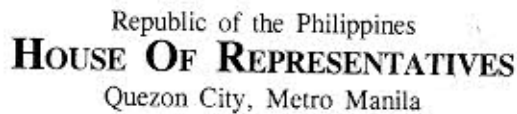
Pilis Falls is located in Barangay Palili, Samal, Bataan. Its water pours down a high slanting cliff north-east of Mt. Nagpali. The falls has an approximate height of 120 feet. The unique natural formation of landslides and the thorough water drops make Pilis Falls an exceptional waterfall. The vegetation of the immediate surroundings is relatively intact forest characterized by multi-strata dipterocarp species.

Pilis Falls could easily become an international tourist haven. It offers various attractions such as beautiful mountains, a wide variety of flora and fauna wherein mountaineers and tourists can enjoy several common eco-tourism related activities such as trekking, nature viewing, bird watching, swimming, picnic, nature photography and camping.

Thus, the developments of the Pilis Falls into an eco-tourism site will not only enhance its aesthetic value but will also bring economic benefits for the people of Bataan and the whole country as well.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly recommended.

Herminia B. Roman
HERMINIA B. ROMAN



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15 Towards this end, the Pilis Falls in Samal, Bataan shall be accorded
16 priority development by the Department of Tourism (DOT) as an eco-

1 tourism site and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the
2 development of tourist spots.

3 SEC. 3. *Pilis Falls as an Eco-Tourism Site.* – The Pilis Falls in
4 Barangay Palili, Samal, Bataan is hereby declared as an eco-tourism site.
5 The Tourism Development Plan of the Municipality of Samal shall be
6 incorporated in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP) of
7 the DOT pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as “*The*
8 *Tourism Act of 2009*” and shall be jointly implemented with the local
9 government, the local Protected Area Management Board (PAMB), the
10 Bataan National Park (BNP) and the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise
11 Zone Authority (TIEZA).

12 The DOT, in coordination with the PAMB, BNP, TIEZA and other
13 agencies of the government, shall delineate well defined geographic areas
14 within the eco-tourism site in Barangay Palili, Samal, Bataan and coordinate
15 the integrated development of this area for the optimum use of natural assets
16 and attractions, as well as existing infrastructure and facilities: *Provided,*
17 That the development shall ensure the preservation of the scenery and the
18 historic significance of the identified tourist attraction.

19 SEC. 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Secretary of
20 the DOT, in consultation with the stakeholders PAMB and BNP shall

1 promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper
2 implementation of this Act.

3 SEC. 5. ***Appropriations.*** – The Secretary of Tourism shall
4 immediately include in the program of the DOT the implementation of this
5 Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General
6 Appropriations Act and internally generated funds of the DOT.

7 SEC. 6. ***Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, executive orders, presidential
8 decrees, rules and regulations and other issuances contrary to or inconsistent
9 with this Act shall be deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

10 SEC. 7. ***Effectivity Clause.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
11 days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a national newspaper of
12 general circulation.

13 Approved,