

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

Seventeenth Congress  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **5887**



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Introduced by Congressman Leopoldo N. Bataoil

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to declare the Mt. Zion Pilgrim Park and the Basay Falls both located in Brgy Laguit Padilla in the Municipality of Bugallon, Province of Pangasinan as a ecotourism zones.

Mt. Zion Pilgrim Park is a 52 hectare-religious site with a chapel, retreat house and station of the cross with life-size statues depicting the passion and death of Jesus Christ.

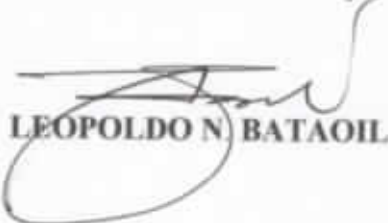
Aiming to become one of the first religious centers in Asia, Mt. Zion Pilgrim Park is a wide area for resting, relaxation, meditation, reflection and retreat. Established and developed on 2002, Mt. Zion is currently expanding its facilities to provide a place of sanctuary for its visitors and tourists.

After soul searching and meditation at Mt. Zion Pilgrim Park, one can go and refresh at Basay Falls also in the Municipality Bugallon. It is about 45 minute-walk from the municipality.

Basay Falls is the only waterfalls in the municipality. It is a hidden beauty in the mountains west of the Municipality of Bugallon. This waterfall is famous among barangay and municipal residents. During holy week, this place attracts many visitors coming from many places like Manila, Dagupan, Lingayen and other parts of the Province of Pangasinan.

With the passage of this bill, Mt. Zion Pilgrim Park and the Basay Falls will be declared as ecotourism spots and will be developed into first class tourist attractions equipped will all the facilities and amenities that will lure more tourists from all over the country.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this House Bill is earnestly sought.

  
**LEOPOLDO N. BATAOIL**

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**AN ACT**  
**DECLARING THE MOUNT ZION PILGRIM PARK AND BASAY FALLS**  
**BOTH LOCATED IN BRGY. LAGUIT PADILLA IN THE MUNICIPALITY**  
**OF BUGALLON, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN AS A ECOTOURISM**  
**ZONES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.**

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

SECTION 1. Mount Zion Pilgrim Park and the Basay Falls both located in Brgy. Laguit Padilla in the Municipality of Bugallon, Province of Pangasinan are hereby declared as a ecotourism zones. As such, priority development of Mt. Zion Pilgrim Park and the Basay Falls shall be made by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of tourist spot.

SEC. 2. The DOT, in coordination with the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority and other concerned agencies of the government, shall, within six (6) months after the approval of this Act, prepare the development plan involving the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate facilities which shall enhance tourism in the area: Provided, that said development plan shall ensure the preservation of the natural beauty and historical significance thereof.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Tourism shall take immediate steps to implement the said development plan and incorporate the same in the overall tourism development program of the Department for the ensuing calendar year.

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

SEC. 5. The amount needed for the immediate implementation of this Act is hereby appropriated from the funds of the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated. Thereafter sum as maybe needed for the continued implementation, operation and maintenance of Mount Zion Pilgrim Park and the Basay Falls shall be included in the annual General Appropriation Act.

SEC. 6. This act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,