

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 6646

Introduced by Hon. Salvador B. Belaro Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

As tourism continues to spur in our country, with a total of 532,757 visitor arrivals on May 2017, an increase of 19.60% compared to May 2016¹, there is also an increasing need for government support to continue its concomitant income-generation for our economy.

Aside from the lack of appropriate infrastructures, specifically good roads and bridges leading to tourist destinations, the lack of recognition and support from the government is also one of the drawbacks that hinder tourism development in the country.

This bill seeks to identify tourist spots by the placement of heritage markers to further promote tourism in the country.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. B. Belaro Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

CONG. SALVADOR B. BELARO, JR.
Representative
1-Ang Edukasyon Party List

¹ Department of Tourism. 2017. *Industry Performance for Travel and Tourism*

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE PLACEMENT OF TOURIST MARKERS TO
ALL TOURIST SITES IN THE COUNTRY AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the “National Tourism Heritage Act of 2017”.

SECTION 2. It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote a tourism industry that is ecologically sustainable, responsible, participative, culturally sensitive, and economically viable.

SECTION 3. All tourism sites in the country shall be identified by the placement in conspicuous places therein of heritage markers each of which shall contain a brief description of such tourism site. Such heritage markers may include the construction of suitable waiting sheds, gazeboos, and other facilities where promotional materials can be placed.

SECTION 4. The Department of Tourism (DOT) is hereby mandated to ensure the identification and placement of markers in all tourism sites in the country.

SECTION 5. The Department of Tourism (DOT), in coordination with the Department of Trade and Industry and Department of Public Works and Highways, is hereby mandated to formulate the implementing rules and regulations of this Act

SECTION 6. An initial amount of One Hundred Million pesos (P100,000,000.00) necessary to carry out the provision of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriation Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved.