



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **7855**



INTRODUCED BY REP. LUISA LLOREN CUARESMA
Lone District of Nueva Vizcaya

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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3 It is a clear mandate of our fundamental law to protect and conserve our
4 environment not only for our benefit but most importantly, for the generations yet to come.
5 Section 16, Article II of the 1987 Constitution provides that, "The State shall protect and
6 advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm
7 and harmony of nature."

8 Further, Section 17, Chapter 2, Title 1, Book 1 of the Republic Act of 7160,
9 otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, "Empower every local government
10 unit to prepare, adopt, implement and monitor their local tourism development plans, enforce
11 standards for tourism enterprises and collect statistical data for tourism purposes."

12 With the geographic location of the municipality of Dupax del Norte and its richness
13 in natural resources, one of the major thrust and priority programs of the municipality is to uplift
14 the quality of life of the people of the municipality through tourism. The Naruron Falls in
15 barangay Oyao, municipality of Dupax del Norte is a 7 layered falls with the height of 2634ft.
16 Because of the beauty of this falls and the benefits it provide to the community such as irrigation
17 and source of water energy, we should therefor initiate the move towards its protection and
18 conservation through the promotion of a tourism industry that is ecologically sustainable,

19 responsible, participative, culturally sensitive, economically viable and equitable for the
20 communities.

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24 In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.
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Luisa Lloren Cuaresma
LUISA LLOREN CUARESMA



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HOUSE BILL NO. _____

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Lone District of Nueva Vizcaya

**AN ACT DECLARING NARURON FALLS SITUATED IN BARANGAY OYAO,
MUNICIPALITY OF DUPAX DEL NORTE, PROVINCE OF NUEVA VIZCAYA AS
ECO TOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.**

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

SECTION 1. Short Title – This Act shall be known as the “Naruron Falls Act”

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy – This Act promotes eco tourism and adheres
to the following principles:

- a) Enshrined in the highest law of the land, is the mandate that the State shall promote the ideals of conserving and developing our patrimony and declares as a policy the right to a balanced and healthful ecology;
- b) The establishment of eco tourism parks managed by stakeholders from local communities translates in real terms the sustainable development paradigm enhancing environmental preservation and economic growth; and
- c) Consistent with national policy that declares eco tourism as an indispensable element of the national economy and an industry of the national interest and importance, the

Municipality affirms that eco tourism sites are means to spur investment, employment and growth toward sustainable development.

SECTION 3. Objectives – the project seeks to provide numerous economic benefits to the surrounding community members. Its operation aims to increase income opportunities throughout the year thereby increasing the family income.

The project is likewise viewed to be a means to encourage more tourists to experience mountaineering, hiking, trekking and other similar activities while appreciating the beauty of the falls.

On the part of the municipality, the project intends support local economy through various goods and services available to the tourists and by increasing its local tax bases through utilization of the locally available fresh produce.

The project aims to provide not only economic benefits but also social and environmental benefits including its resultant long-term and short-term effects, some of which are enumerated below:

1. Bring different people together by providing opportunities for cultural exchange;
2. Support local crafts produced by women, out-of-school youth, persons with disabilities, drug surrenders and others;
3. Create a vehicle for educational research and studies; and,
4. Help reduce public health risk against non-organic agricultural products and by promoting physical outdoor activities.

SECTION 5. Naruron Falls Eco Tourism Site – This Act hereby declares Naruron Falls in barangay Oyao, municipality of Dupax Del Norte, province of Nueva Vizcaya as an Eco Tourism Site.

SECTION 6. Eco Tourism Master Plan - The Local Government of the province of Nueva Vizcaya, the Department of Environment and National Resources (DENR) and the Department of Tourism (DOT) shall jointly prepare an Ecotourism Master Plan for Naruron Falls Eco Tourism Site and to promulgate necessary rules and regulations to be implemented by the local government in coordination with concerned government agencies.

SECTION 7. Naruron Falls Eco Tourism Management Board – There is hereby created a Naruron Falls Eco Tourism Management Board which shall formulate strategies and guidelines in the operation, maintenance, promotion and conservation of the park. The Board shall be composed of the municipal Mayor as Chairperson, the municipal Vice Mayor as Vice Chairperson, the Sangguniang Bayan as Secretary, the Municipal Tourism officer, the Sangguniang Bayan Committee Chair on Environment, The Sangguniang Bayan Committee

93 Chair on Budget and Finance, the Municipal Planning Development Officer. Three (3)
94 stakeholders from the local community to be appointed by the municipal Mayor, upon
95 recommendation by the Sanggunian Barangay of Oyao, shall serve as members of the
96 management board for a term of three (3) years.

97 **SECTION 8. Appropriations.** - The amount necessary to carry out the
98 provisions of this Act shall be included in the budget of concerned government agencies in the
99 General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

100 **SECTION 9. Implementation** – Within sixty (60) days after the implementation
101 of this Act, the DENR incoordination with DOT shall promulgate the necessary rules and
102 regulation to govern the effective implementation of this Act.

103 **SECTION 10. Separability Clause.** - If any provision of this Act is held invalid
104 or unconstitutional, other provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and
105 effect.

106 **SECTION 11. Effectivity Clause.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
107 following its complete publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspaper of
108 general circulation.

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111 **Approved,**