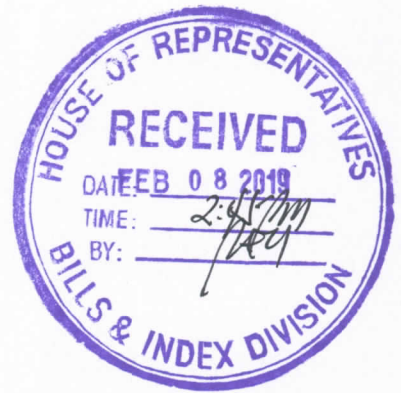




Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila



Seventeenth Congress
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9085

Introduced by Representative Erico Aristotle C. Aumentado

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare the Second Legislative District of Bohol as the "*Farm Tourism Capital of the Province of Bohol*."

Republic Act No. 10816, otherwise known as the "*Farm Tourism Development Act of 2016*," defines "*farm tourism*" as the practice of attracting visitors and tourists to farm areas for production, educational and recreational purposes. It involves any agricultural-or fishery-based operation or activity that brings to a farm, visitors, tourists, farmers and fisherfolks who want to be educated and trained on farming and its related activities, and provides a venue for outdoor recreation and accessible family outings.

Known as the "*Jewel of the Philippines*," Bohol is the tenth largest island in the country. It is popular among local and foreign tourists because of its stunning landscape. It is divided into three legislative districts including the Second Legislative District which is composed of the municipalities of Bien Unido, Buenavista, Carlos P. Garcia, Clarin, Danao, Dagohoy, Getafe, Inabanga, Sagbayan, San Isidro, San Miguel, Talibon, Trinidad and Ubay.

The people in the Second Legislative District of Bohol mainly depend on farming and fishing for their livelihood. Moreover, the climate is very conducive to farming, thus the district is a hub of many farming and fishing activities and operations in the province.

Many municipalities in the Second Legislative District are pioneers in farm tourism operations. The Municipality of Ubay has the largest and oldest government livestock facility in the Philippines, the Ubay Stock Farm. Imported breeds of cattle are found in it. It also serves as a research facility for cattle, carabao, goat, sheep and even ostrich breeding, and one of the accredited

livestock technology training facilities of the Department of Agriculture in the Visayas and Mindanao.

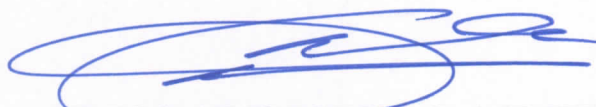
The Ubay Agri-Park, the first of its kind in the Visayas, was also launched in Ubay to boost the agriculture and tourism industries in the area. The park helps promote farm tourism or agri-tourism and is a showcase of Bohol's advances in farm technology. Ubay is also home to Sinandigan Multi-Species Hatchery which is the biggest multi-species hatchery in the Philippines. It is a fishery infrastructure and mariculture park established to enable the fish farmers to become totally independent from wild stocks to promote a more stable food security for the province. The facility is producing fingerlings of various fish species such as milkfish (*bangus*), groupers (*lapulapu*) and siganids (*kitong, danggit*).

Another frontrunner is the Municipality of Bien Unido, which is now recognized as the "*Seaweeds Capital in Central Visayas*." People in this municipality are into seaweeds farming, an industry wherein seaweeds are either made into gel capsules, soap, toothpaste, slippers and other food packaging containers.

Other nearby municipalities are offering their tourism services and attractions with special farm activities and products.

Under this proposed measure, farmers engaged in farm tourism activities may avail of the incentives provided for them under the law. This proposed law will serve as a catalyst for the development of agriculture and fishery communities, and will provide additional income for farmers, farmworkers and fisherfolks, particularly in the Second Legislative District of Bohol. It also aims to promote local farm tourism industries and raise the awareness on the importance of agriculture in economic and cultural development.

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



ERICO ARISTOTLE C. AUMENTADO



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Seventeenth Congress
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **9085**

Introduced by Representative Erico Aristotle C. Aumentado

AN ACT

**DECLARING THE SECOND LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OF BOHOL AS
THE FARM TOURISM CAPITAL OF THE PROVINCE OF BOHOL**

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

SECTION 1. The Second Legislative District of Bohol composed of the
municipalities of Bien Unido, Buenavista, Carlos P. Garcia, Clarin, Danao,
Dagohoy, Getafe, Inabanga, Sagbayan, San Isidro, San Miguel, Talibon,
Trinidad and Ubay, is hereby declared as the farm tourism capital of the
Province of Bohol. All local government units in the second legislative district
may avail of the privileges and benefits provided under Republic Act No.
10816, otherwise known as the "*Farm Tourism Development Act of 2016*."

SEC. 2. All local government units in the Second Legislative District of
Bohol shall coordinate with the Department of Tourism, the Department of
Public Works and Highways, the Department of Transportation and the
Department of Agriculture, in the prioritization of infrastructure projects that

1 will promote farm tourism in the Province of Bohol in accordance with the
2 provisions of “*Farm Tourism Development Act of 2016.*”

3 SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in
4 the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

5 Approved,