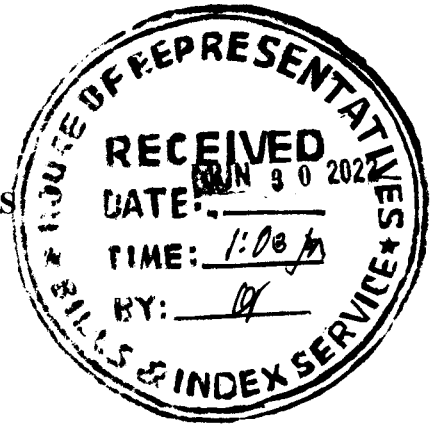


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2 Republic of the Philippines
3 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**
4 Constitution Hills, Quezon City
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6 **NINETEENTH CONGRESS**
7 First Regular Session
8
9 **HOUSE BILL NO. 106**
10



11
12 Introduced by Representative VINCENT FRANCO D. FRASCO
13

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16 **EXPLANATORY NOTE**
17

18
19 This bill seeks to declare the Santiago Public Beach in the Municipality of San Francisco,
20 Province of Cebu, as a tourist destination of the Philippines.
21

22 Section 1, Article XII of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that the goals of the
23 national economy are a more equitable distribution of opportunities, income, and wealth; a
24 sustained increase in the amount of goods and services produced by the nation for the benefit of
25 the people; and an expanding productivity as the key to raising the quality of life for all, especially
26 the underprivileged.
27

28 Furthermore, Republic Act No. 9593 or the Tourism Act of 2009 declared tourism as an
29 indispensable element of the national economy that shall spur socio-economic growth, investment
30 and employment in the country.

31 San Francisco is a third class municipality in the province of Cebu. According to the 2020
32 Philippine National Census, it has a population of 59,236 people. It is one of the municipalities
33 that comprise the Camotes Islands. It is composed of 15 barangays, including Santiago. The waters
34 surrounding the islands support a very rich and diverse fishery resource, which includes tilapia,
35 carp, milkfish, and catfish, among others. Many of the local residents depend on fishing as a
36 resource for their subsistence and livelihood. This is the second half of farming among locals.

37 Tourism is another major source of income, especially among hotels, resorts and tourism
38 business entities. Camotes can provide tourists and visitors a refreshing and relaxing environment
39 for those who seek silence and solitude.

40 Santiago Bay is located in the southwestern part of the island. The wide and deep white
41 sand beach is situated directly in front of the town of Santiago. This beach is owned by the local
42 government and is a favorite rendezvous for locals and visitors. With the fishing communities
43 within the area, it can boost tourism and can provide opportunities to the fisherfolk.

1 In this light, the Bill was filed which declares the Santiago Public Beach as a tourism
2 destination/tourist spot in the Fifth District of the Province of Cebu. The declaration of this beach
3 as a tourism destination will bring in the surge of tourists in the area, whether foreign or domestic,
4 and will bring in significant economic gains in the province.

5 In view of the foregoing, approval of this Bill is earnestly requested.

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9 **VINCENT FRANCO D. FRASCO**
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6 **NINETEENTH CONGRESS**
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8

9 **HOUSE BILL NO. 106**
10

11 Introduced by Rep. Vincent Franco D. Frasco
12

13
14 **AN ACT**
15 **DECLARING SANTIAGO PUBLIC BEACH IN THE CAMOTES ISLANDS,**
16 **MUNICIPALITY OF SAN FRANCISCO, PROVINCE OF CEBU, AS A TOURIST**
17 **DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT, AND APPROPRIATING**
18 **FUNDS THEREFOR**
19

20
21 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress
22 assembled:
23

24
25 Section 1. The Santiago Public Beach located in Barangay Santiago, Municipality of San
26 Francisco, Fifth District of the Province of Cebu, is hereby declared as tourist destination.
27

28 As such, the development of this tourist spot shall be prioritized by the Department of
29 Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of tourist
30 destinations.
31

32 Section 2. Within one (1) year from the approval of this Act, the DOT, in coordination with
33 the concerned local government units and agencies of the government, shall prepare a tourism
34 development plan involving the construction, installation, and maintenance of appropriate
35 facilities that enhance tourism in the area: Provided, That the development plan shall ensure the
36 preservation and conservation of the natural beauty and resources of the area: Provided, further,
37 That any activities and developments to be carried out in the area must conform with the concept
38 of ecotourism as provided in the national ecotourism strategy jointly issued by the Department of
39 Environment and Natural Resources and the DOT.
40

41 Section 3. The DOT and its attached agencies shall take immediate steps to implement the
42 tourism development plan that suits the natural characteristics of the Santiago Public Beach and
43 shall incorporate the same in its tourism development and program for the ensuing calendar year.
44 It shall also include the Santiago Public Beach in all its national, regional, and local promotion
45 programs.

1 Section 4. The Secretary of Tourism shall include in the DOT's program the
2 implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General
3 Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.
4

5 Section 5. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Tourism,
6 in consultation with the Municipality of San Francisco, shall promulgate the necessary rules and
7 regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.
8

9 Section 6. All laws, regulations, proclamations, executive orders, or parts thereof,
10 inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended accordingly.
11

12 Section 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official
13 Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.
14

15 Approved,