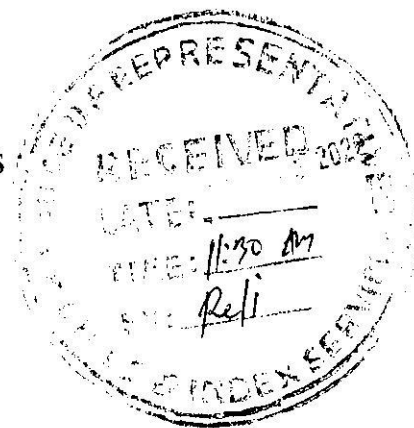


**Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
QUEZON CITY**

**19TH Congress
First Regular Session**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1169



Introduced by: **HON. LORNA C. SILVERIO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare the Municipality of Dona Remedios Trinidad or DRT as an ecotourism zone, providing funds for its balanced development and for other purposes. It aims to promote ecotourism, uplift the level of awareness of our locals and foreigners regarding the most unexplored town and yet the most promising in terms of tourism. The promotion of local tourism specifically during the pandemic can generate employment among Bulakenyos and spread the benefits to both the private and public sector.

The Municipality of Doña Remedios Trinidad or DRT as it is fondly called, is a landlocked, first-class income town established in September 13, 1977 and currently the youngest and holds the biggest land area in Province of Bulacan with 932.96 square kilometers (360.22 sq.m). It has 8 Barangays with its latest population of 22,663 according to the 2015 Census and comprises 0.69% of the total population of Bulacan Province with 24 inhabitants per square kilometers. It is one of the largest towns in terms of land area in the Province of Bulacan, DRT boasts of wide rainforests, verdant hills and mountains, waterfalls, springs, creeks and rivers that would strongly interest all nature and environment advocates.

One can marvel at the breath-taking view of Metro Manila, Bulacan and Pampanga seen atop of Mount Lumot Barangay Camachin where the historical Cradle monument, a symbol and remembrance of many lost lives during the battle in 1938 against the guerillas is erected in their memory. DRT also hosts a lot of natural water and rock formation namely: Verdivia Falls in Brgy. Talbak, Talon Pari falls in Brgy. Kalawakan, Tila Pilon Hills (Chocolate Hills of Bulacan) of Brgy. Kalawakan, and the Puning caves in Brgy. Bayabas and among others. Also, numerous resorts also opened in Brgy. Pulong Sampaloc that complement directly to the natural wonder of its surroundings.

And because of its scenery, it is gradually attracting attention from and drawing tourists from near and far, thus, the town is becoming a strong testament to the cautious and long range development of the leaders of the province and municipality.

Local tourist resorts have mushroomed over the years but the pace of environmental enhancement remains steady. Extreme care is exercised in the granting of permits to operate including the building of structures and physical amenities. The operative advice is to enhance the natural order of the tourism sites worthy of an ecotourism zone.

The natural sustainability of DRT is thus a paramount concern. Declaring it as an ecotourism zone will institutionalize all rational planning and related activities and instill both in residents and visiting tourists the importance of environmental enhancement and protection. All stakeholders will be responsible in maintaining the natural state of the Municipality for the benefit of the generations still to come

In view of the stated premises, approval of this measure is earnestly sought.



LORNA C. SILVERIO

Representative, 3rd District of Bulacan

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

19th Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1169

Introduced by: **HON. LORNA C. SILVERIO**

**AN ACT DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF DOÑA REMEDIOS TRINIDAD,
IN THE THIRD DISTRICT OF BULACAN AS A TOURIST FRIENDLY
DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. The Municipality of Doña Remedios Trinidad in the Province of Bulacan is hereby declared as a tourist destination. The development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to rules and regulations governing the development of tourist destinations.

SECTION 2. The Department of Tourism within one year after the approval of this Act, and with coordination with the Local Government of Doña Remedios Trinidad and concerned government agencies, shall prepare a tourism development plan involving the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and infrastructures which can enhance and improve the tourism sector in the Municipality: Provided, That said development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of natural resources thereat.

SECTION 3. The DOT shall take immediate steps to implement the tourism development plan that will suit the natural characteristics of the said municipality and shall incorporate the same in its tourism development program for the ensuing calendar year. It shall also be the responsibility of the DOT in coordination with the local tourism offices to promote Doña Remedios Trinidad as a tourist destination in all its national, regional, and local promotion programs.

SECTION 4. The Secretary of the DOT shall be the lead implementor of this Act and shall include in the Department's program and the funding of which shall be included in the General Appropriations Act and internally generated funds of the DOT.

SECTION 5. Within sixty days (60) after the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of DOT, shall promulgate the rules and regulations needed for the implementation of this Act.

SECTION 6. If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions hereof.

SECTION 7. All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, ordinances, rules and regulation, and other issuances or part thereof which are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly

SECTION 8. This Act shall take after fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Milanes", written in a cursive style.