

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **5700**



Introduced by Rep. Eleandro Jesus F. Madrona

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Tourism is one of the principal engines of economic growth. It provides local employment, generates revenue for different businesses and paves the way to enhance various infrastructure projects.

One of the thousand municipalities in the country that shows tourism potential is the Town of San Andres, known for its former names "Parpagoja," "Salado," and "Despujols." Only in 1961, through Republic Act No. 3358 signed by President Carlos P. Garcia, that the town adopted the name of its patron saint, St. Andrew the Fisherman, locally known as San Andres.

Found in the western portion of the Tablas Island in the Province of Romblon, San Andres is comprised of barangays with unique landscapes and seascapes such as the calming coastal areas of Barangay Agpudlos; the family-friendly Baywalks of Barangay Poblacion and Barangay Tan-agan; the eye-catching *Sapatos* Point in Barangay Mabini; the majestic Mablaran Falls in Barangay Linawan; and the scenic views of Barangay Victoria. If further developed, said tourist sites could further boost the local economy and attract various investments.

This representation seeks to put the Province of Romblon in the bucket list of many travelers through the DOT's local and international promotion programs. Moreover, through legislation, this representation envisions to place San Andres in the map as one of the sought-after tourism destinations in the country.

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

REP. ELEANDRO JESUS F. MADRONA

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AN ACT
DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN ANDRES, PROVINCE OF ROMBLON,
A TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AREA

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

1 **SECTION 1.** The Municipality of San Andres, Province of Romblon, is hereby declared
2 a tourism development area (TDA).

3 The San Andres TDA hereby includes, but not limited to, the following areas within the
4 municipality which are endowed with scenic natural resources and attractions:

5 a) Coastal areas of Barangay Agpudlos;

6 b) Barangays Poblacion and Tan-agan, known for their respective baywalks;

7 c) Barangay Mabini, where the *Sapatos* Point is located;

8 d) Barangay Linawan, where the Mablaran Falls is located; and

9 e) Mountain destinations and scenic attractions of Barangays Victoria, Marigondon Norte and

10 Marigondon Sur.

1 Pursuant thereto, the development of these areas shall be prioritized and supported by the
2 Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of
3 tourism destinations.

4 **SEC. 2.** Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the municipal government of
5 San Andres shall, in coordination with the DOT, Department of Environment and Natural
6 Resources and concerned agencies of the government, prepare a tourism development plan that
7 shall include the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate infrastructure and
8 facilities to enhance tourism in the Municipality of San Andres, particularly in identified areas for
9 tourism development: *Provided*, That said development plan shall ensure the preservation and
10 conservation of the natural beauty and resources of the areas: *Provided further*, That the
11 implementation of the tourism development plan shall be included in the budget of the municipal
12 government of San Andres.

13 **SEC. 3.** The DOT shall assist the municipal government of San Andres in the
14 implementation of the tourism development plan by providing technical assistance in tourism
15 capacity building. It shall also include the Municipality of San Andres in its national and regional
16 promotion programs.

17 **SEC. 4.** The funding for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual
18 budget of the municipal government of San Andres. The DOT may augment such allocation with
19 internally-generated funds.

20 **Sec. 5.** Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the municipal government
21 of San Andres shall, in consultation with the DOT and concerned agencies of the government,
22 promulgate rules and regulations to implement this Act.

1 **SEC. 6.** If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other
2 provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

3 **SEC. 7.** All laws, rules, regulations, presidential decrees and other issuances inconsistent
4 with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

5 **SEC. 8.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*
6 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

 Approved,