



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

**Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session**

HOUSE BILL NO. 7254



Introduced by Representative Rudys Caesar G. Fariñas I

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The purpose of this bill is to declare the Maira-Ira Cove, popularly known as “The Blue Lagoon”, located in the municipality of Pagudpud, Province of Ilocos Norte, a tourism destination. This declaration aims to promote the preservation of the natural beauty of the cove while encouraging sustainable tourism in the region.

Under this measure, the Department of Tourism will promote and regulate tourism in the tourism destination in coordination with the local government units. In addition, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources will also play a role in ensuring the protection and preservation of the natural resources in the area.

The bill mandates the establishment of steps and programs necessary for promoting tourism in the area while also requiring the development of sustainable tourism practices that prioritize the conservation of the environment. Overall, this bill aims to promote the sustainable development of Maira-Ira Cove and its environs while preserving its natural beauty and protecting its unique ecosystem for future generations.

Hence, this representation seeks the passage of this measure.


RUDYS CAESAR G. FARIÑAS I



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

**Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session**

HOUSE BILL NO. 7254

Introduced by Representative Rudys Caesar G. Fariñas I

**AN ACT
DECLARING THE MAIRA-IRA COVE, POPULARLY KNOWN AS THE “BLUE
LAGOON”, LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PAGUDPUD, PROVINCE
OF ILOCOS NORTE, A TOURISM DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS
DEVELOPMENT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1 **SECTION 1.** The Maira-Ira Cove, popularly known as the “Blue Lagoon”,
2 located in the Municipality of Pagudpud, Province of Ilocos Norte, is hereby
3 declared a tourism destination. As such, its development shall be prioritized by
4 the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing
5 the development of tourism destinations.
6

7 **Sec. 2.** Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the DOT shall, in
8 coordination with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the
9 municipal government of Pagudpud and concerned agencies of the government,
10 prepare a tourism development plan that shall include the construction,
11 installation and maintenance of appropriate infrastructure and facilities to
12 enhance tourism in the area: *Provided*, That said development plan shall ensure
13 the preservation and conservation of the natural beauty and resources of the
14 area.

15 **Sec. 3.** The DOT and its concerned attached agencies shall take immediate
16 steps to implement the tourism development plan with due consideration to the
17 natural characteristics of the Blue Lagoon, and shall incorporate the same in its
18 tourism development program for the calendar year immediately succeeding the
19 approval of this Act. It shall also include the Blue Lagoon in all its national,
20 regional and local promotion programs.
21

22 **Sec. 4.** The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department’s
23 program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included
24 in the annual General Appropriations Act, and shall augment such allocation
25 with internally generated funds of the Department.
26

1 **Sec. 5.** Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOT shall,
2 in consultation with the municipal government of Pagudpud and other
3 concerned government agencies and stakeholders, promulgate the necessary
4 rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.
5

6 **Sec. 6.** All laws, rules, regulations, presidential decrees and other
7 issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed
8 repealed or amended accordingly.
9

10 **Sec. 7.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in
11 the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,