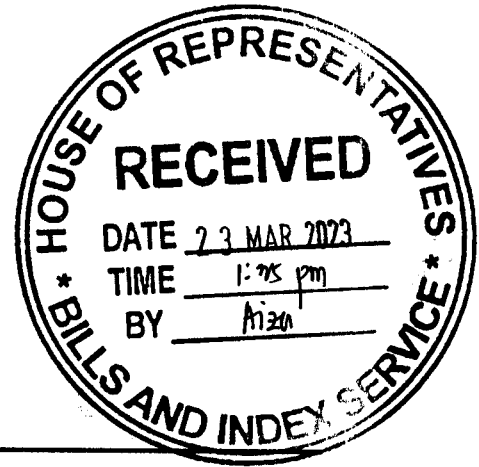


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7771



Introduced by Rep. KRISTINE ALEXIE B. TUTOR

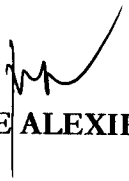
EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines is an archipelago consisting of more than 7,000 islands. It is a prime tourism destination that offers a wide array of sites to visit for those seeking to escape the hustle and bustle of city life. From its virgin forests, majestic mountains, and volcanoes, to its white pristine beaches, coral reefs, and waterfalls, the Philippines is home to world-renowned natural wonders. Some have been tapped for tourism pursuits, yet others remain unheard of. One such natural beauty is the Can-umantad Falls in the Municipality of Candijay, Bohol.

Can-umantad Falls is a three (3) tier, 60-foot -high-waterfalls. It is named after its height (can-uman or 60) and is said to be the tallest cascade in Bohol. Its water comes from the Cadapdapan River and falls in multiple layers before finally splashing in the natural basin below which is ideal for camping or swimming. The majestic waterfall is considered a hidden treasure of the municipality of Candijay, Bohol, however, this hidden gem is not even included in the list of tourist attractions in Bohol. It has never been publicly exposed to other tourists in the Philippines or the world. With the lack of needed development and promotion, the tourism potential of the place has been largely untapped.

As part of the present administration's core program for the development of the country, ecotourism is considered an important economic tool that will create a significant source of business opportunities for the local community. The declaration of the Can-umantad Falls as an ecotourism site will develop the area into a fully grown tourist destination that will offer both local and foreign visitors a glimpse of the Can-umantad Falls' natural beauty while ensuring that it is managed in ways that are sustainable, pro-community and pro-ecology.

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


HON. KRISTINE ALEXIE B. TUTOR

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

Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **7771**

Introduced by Rep. KRISTINE ALEXIE B. TUTOR

AN ACT
DECLARING CAN-UMANTAD FALLS LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF
CANDIJAY, BOHOL, AN ECOTOURISM SITE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR

SECTION 1. The Can-umantad Falls located in Barangay Cadapdapan, Municipality of Candijay, Bohol, is hereby declared an ecotourism site. The development of Can-umantad Falls as an ecotourism site shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

SECTION 2. The Municipal Government of Candijay, in coordination with the Department of Tourism (DOT), the Department of Natural Resources (DENR), and other concerned agencies of the government, shall jointly prepare a development plan that shall include the construction, installation, and maintenance of appropriate facilities and infrastructure that shall enhance tourism in the area within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, *Provided*, That said development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the natural beauty and indigenous flora and fauna therein: *Provided, further*, That the implementation of the development plan shall be included in the budget of the Municipal Government of Candijay.

SECTION 3. The DOT shall assist the Municipal Government of Candijay in the implementation of the development plan by providing technical assistance in the formulation, development, and implementation of programs and strategies that will generate livelihood and employment opportunities for the community therein while ensuring that it is managed sustainably. It shall include Can-umantad Falls in all its national and regional promotion programs.

SECTION 4. The funds necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be included in the appropriations authorized for the DOT. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the continued operation and maintenance thereof shall be charged from the fees to be imposed by the Municipal Government of Candijay. The DOT may augment such allocation with internally-generated funds.

SECTION 6. Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOT and the DENR, in consultation with the Municipal Government of Candijay and other government agencies concerned, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

SECTION 7. All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules, regulations, and other issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

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

Approved,