

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
H.B. NO. 8954

INTRODUCED BY **REPRESENTATIVE EMMARIE “LOLYPOP” OUANO-DIZON**

AN ACT
REQUIRING A BASIC FIRST AID TRAINING FOR PERSONNEL OF
TOURISM ENTERPRISES, TOURISM-ORIENTED NON-GOVERNMENT
ORGANIZATIONS AND PEOPLE’S ORGANIZATIONS, AND
INDIVIDUAL PROVIDERS OF TOURISM-RELATED SERVICES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

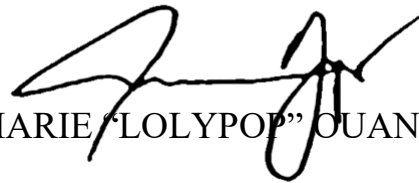
Republic Act No. 9993, otherwise known as “The Tourism Act of 2009” provides that the “State declares tourism as an indispensable element of the national economy and an industry of national interest and importance, which must be harnessed as an engine of socio-economic growth and cultural affirmation to generate investment, foreign exchange and employment, and to continue to mold an enhanced sense of national pride for all Filipinos”.

According to the Philippine Statistics Authority, Tourism contributed around 6.2% to the country’s Gross Domestic Product in 2022. The Tourism Direct Gross Value Added (TDGVA), which is the gross value added generated by the tourism industries of the economy that directly serve both inbound and domestic visitors in the country, amounted to P1.38 Trillion in 2022, higher by 36.9% compared to P1 Trillion in 2021. Records show that the TDGVA has been steadily rising after the onslaught of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020. From 5.1% in 2020, 5.2% in 2021, to 6.2% in 2022, although still much lower than pre-pandemic, the steady rise signifies the importance of the tourism industry in our economy.

Given the vast coverage of tourism and its important role in our society, it is but proper to ensure the safety, not only of the tourists, but of all stakeholders. Those people who are at the forefront of this industry should, therefore, be equipped with first aid skills that they can use in any circumstances anywhere they need it.

This bill requires personnel of tourism enterprises and tourism-oriented NGOs, People's Organizations, and individual providers of tourism-related services to undergo basic first aid training from the Philippine Red Cross or other reputable training institutions. It also directs the local government units to ensure that the above-mentioned organizations are equipped with first aid kits.

Hence, the early approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emmarie', with a stylized flourish at the end.

EMMARIE "LOLYPOP" OUANO-DIZON



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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
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House Bill No. **8954**

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DIZON

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

Section 1. The State recognizes tourism as an indispensable element of the national economy and an industry of national interest and importance. Towards this end, the State, shall develop the necessary human resources that shall advance sustainable tourism and the safety of tourists in the country. The State shall ensure that personnel providing tourism service be equipped with the necessary skills and training to achieve these objectives.

Section 2. Personnel of tourism enterprises and tourism-oriented NGOs and People’s Organizations, as well as individual providers of tourism-related services

are required to undergo basic first aid training provided by the Philippine Red Cross or other reputable institutions offering such training. The Professional Regulation Commission and such other training institutions shall issue the appropriate training certification for this purpose.

As a requirement for the renewal of their business permits, all tourism enterprises shall submit to the concerned local government units (LGUs), a sworn statement attesting that their personnel have undergone such training, attaching the copies of the individual training certificates thereto.

All tourism enterprises, tourism-oriented NGOs, and People's Organizations shall be equipped with first aid kits.

Section 3. The concerned LGUs shall ensure that tourism enterprises and tourism-oriented NGOs and People's Organizations are equipped with first aid kits. A periodic inspection for this purpose shall be conducted by the concerned LGUs. The concerned LGUs shall register and maintain a roster of personnel of tourism enterprises and tourism-oriented organizations. It shall likewise coordinate with the Professional Regulation Commission or other accredited and reputable training institutions providing first aid training for these personnel.

Section 4. Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Tourism, in coordination with concerned agencies of the government, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

Section 5. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason any part or provision of this Act is declared invalid and unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 6. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 7. *Effectivity.* – The Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,