



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9006

Introduced by:
REP. HARRIS CHRISTOPHER M. ONGCHUAN

EXPLANATORY NOTE

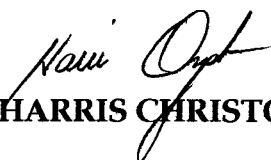
The State guarantees its principle in providing for a balanced and healthful ecology. With it is the responsibility to take care and preserve the environment. This measure seeks to promote and preserve the beauty of Onay Beach while at the same time, develop it to attract tourists and foster economic development in the area.

Onay Beach is a popular swimming spot in the Municipality of Laoang. It is well renowned for its golden sand features and turquoise water. It also features a cliff lush with full grown trees allowing people to cliff jump into the deep water. The preservation of this natural site is of utmost importance.

In coordination with the Department of Tourism and other concerned agencies, the Municipal government of Laoang will be given one year after the approval of this act to prepare a tourism development plan. This plan will ensure that the area will have suitable infrastructure in place for visitors and will ensure the preservation of the site's historical significance.

With the development of a sound tourism plan, this measure seeks to also stimulate economic growth and prosperity in the Municipality. The Province of Northern Samar is working towards a province that is strong, happy, and resilient. And it is of utmost importance that the progression of economic growth, and preservation of ecological features, are given harmonious importance.

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


REP. HARRIS CHRISTOPHER M. ONGCHUAN



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**AN ACT DECLARING ONAY BEACH IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LAOANG,
SECOND DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF NORTHERN SAMAR AS A
TOURIST DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

Section 1. Onay Beach located in the Municipality of Laoang, Second District of the Province of Northern Samar, is hereby declared as a tourist destination. As such, its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and other concerned agencies, subject to the rules and regulations governing the development sites and tourists' destinations.

Section 2. Within one (1) year after the effectivity of this Act, the DOT, in coordination with other concerned agencies of the government shall prepare a tourism development plan involving the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and infrastructure that shall improve the over-all features of the area, thereby ensuring the accessibility and security of the tourists: Provided, that the said development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the tourism significance of the area. Provided further, that any activities and developments to be carried out in the area must conform with the concept of ecotourism as provided in the national ecotourism strategy jointly issued by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and DOT.

Section 3. The DOT and its attached agencies shall take immediate steps to implement the tourism development plan that suits the natural characteristics of Onay Beach and shall incorporate the same in its tourism development and program for the ensuing calendar year. It shall also include the Onay Beach in all its national, regional, and local promotions programs.

Section 4. The Secretary of DOT shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriation Act, and shall augment such allocation with internally generated funds of the Department.

Section 5. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of , in consultation with the Municipality of Laoang, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

Section 6. All laws, regulations, proclamations, executive orders, or part thereof, inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended accordingly.

Section 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after the publication in the Official Gazette or in newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,