

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10369

Introduced by Representative Joseph Gilbert F. Violago



EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Constitution provides that, "The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature." (Art. II, Sec. 15)

This bill seeks to declare the Aloha Falls in Barangay Puncan in the Municipality of Carranglan, Province of Nueva Ecija as an ecotourism site.

Situated near the prestigious Mt. 387 or Batong Amat, the Aloha Falls, boasting its pristine and tranquil beauty, is a must-see destination for hikers, climbers, and adventurers alike. Nature lovers, moreso the general public, are likewise welcome to soak their feet in the cold water and embrace the peace and quiet that only nature can provide.

For this reason, it is of paramount importance to support and develop this natural wonder, not only to promote local tourism, but also to boost socio-economic activity and generate employment opportunities and income for the people of Carranglan.

Through this bill, concerned government agencies shall prepare a tourism development plan that shall include the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate infrastructure and facilities to enhance tourism in the area, while maintaining the natural beauty of the Aloha Falls.

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


JOSEPH GILBERT F. VIOLAGO

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AN ACT
DECLARING ALOHA FALLS LOCATED IN BARANGAY PUNCAN,
MUNICIPALITY OF CARRANGLAN, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA, AN
ECOTOURISM SITE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. The Aloha Falls located in Barangay Puncan, Municipality of Carranglan, Province of Nueva Ecija, is hereby declared an ecotourism site. Pursuant thereto, its development shall be prioritized and supported by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

SECTION 2. The DOT, in coordination with the Department of Public Works and Highways, Department of Environment and Natural Resources and concerned agencies of the government, shall immediately after the effectivity of this Act, prepare a tourism development plan that shall include the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate infrastructure and facilities to enhance tourism in the area: *Provided,* That said development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the natural beauty and resources of the area.

SECTION 3. The DOT and its attached agencies shall take immediate steps in implementing the tourism development plan that will suit the needs of Aloha Falls. It shall also include the Aloha Falls in its national and regional promotion 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 Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.

SECTION 5. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOT, in consultation with the local government unit of Carranglan and concerned agencies of the government, shall promulgate rules and regulations to implement this Act.

SECTION 6. All laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, proclamations, presidential decrees and other issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

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

Approved,