

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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10399



Introduced by Representative Loreto S. Amante

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Undeniably, the slipper industry has been flourishing in the town of Liliw in the Province of Laguna. It has become a diverse industry after being around for several decades now. Its locally-made and finely-crafted "tsinelas" have been recognized as one of the world's finest, not only in terms of quality and durability, but also for its artistic design. Truly, the town has not only been a home to a bountiful culture, but a cradle of Filipino artisans.

The industry has attracted tourists, both local and foreign, which made the town a unique historical and tourist destination within the province. As a natural consequence, it has created limitless livelihood opportunities to the populace and paved the way for the emergence of Liliw's local economy.

As early as 2003, the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Laguna has designated Liliw as the province's footwear capital. Hence, this bill seeks to give proper and added recognition to Liliw by designating the same as the "Tsinelas Capital", not just of the province of Laguna, but of the entire country.

It is submitted that the official designation of the Municipality as the "Tsinelas Capital of the Philippines" would boost the Municipality and its industry's reputation, which in turn, would result to increase in livelihood opportunities, economic growth and cultural appreciation from tourists.

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


LORETO S. AMANTE
Representative
Third District, Laguna

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AN ACT
DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF LILIW, PROVINCE OF LAGUNA, AS
THE “TSINELAS CAPITAL OF THE PHILIPPINES,” AND PROVIDING FOR
ITS DEVELOPMENT

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

SECTION 1. The Municipality of Liliw in the Province of Laguna, is hereby declared the “*Tsinelas Capital of the Philippines*” in recognition of the economic and cultural significance of its slippers industry, which has existed for several decades and has been a significant contributor to the economy of the Municipality of Liliw and the Province of Laguna. 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 tourism destinations.

SEC. 2. Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the municipal government of Liliw shall, in coordination with the DOT, Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), and concerned agencies of the government, prepare a tourism development plan that shall include the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate infrastructure and facilities to develop and promote the “*tsinelas*” industry in the area, as well as to ensure accessibility and security of tourists: *Provided, That* said development plan shall

ensure the preservation and conservation of the natural beauty and resources of the area:
Provided, further; That the implementation of the tourism development plan shall be included in the budget of the municipal government of Liliw.

SEC. 3. The DOT shall assist the municipal government of Liliw in the implementation of the tourism development plan by providing technical assistance in tourism capacity building. It shall also include the Municipality of Liliw in all its regional and national promotion programs.

SEC. 4. The funding for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual budget of the municipal government of Liliw.

The DOT through the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA), if necessary, may include such allocation in the TIEZA's program.

SEC. 5. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the municipal government of Liliw shall, in consultation with the DOT, DPWH, DENR and concerned agencies of the government, promulgate the rules and regulations to implement this Act.

SEC. 6. If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

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

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

Approved,