

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 525



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Introduced by Representative Reynante U. Arrogancia

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The Philippine Statistics Authority has reported that in 2024, the contribution of Tourism Direct Gross Value Added (TDGVA) to the Philippine economy is estimated at 8.9 percent. The same report stated that TDGVA is higher by 11.2 percent in 2024, amounting to 2.35 trillion in 2024 compared with the 2.12 trillion in 2023.<sup>1</sup>

The tourism industry in the Philippines was clearly one of the major drives of economic growth in the country prior to the onslaught of the Covid-19 pandemic. This is an industry that needs support on its road to recovery. The institutionalizing of programs and policies that would protect the welfare of all tourists and assure their safety can help the growth and recovery of the industry. It is therefore necessary that personnel of tourism establishments, tourism-oriented organizations and individuals providing tourism-related services possess the necessary skills to respond to emergency health situations. This could serve as one of the key factors promoting the tourism industry on its path to recovery.

With all of these taken into consideration, this bill has been filed to respond in institutionalizing a responsive program towards sustainable tourism that would protect our tourists and strengthen our tourism industry. A similar bill has been filed in previous Congresses, and it is hoped that in the 20<sup>th</sup> Congress this bill will finally become a law.

In view of the foregoing, this representation seeks approval of this bill.

  
REYNANTE U. ARROGANCIA

<sup>1</sup> Philippine Statistics Authority – Philippine Tourism Satellite Account. Retrieved from <https://psa.gov.ph/statistics/tourism>

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**AN ACT**  
**REQUIRING PERSONNEL OF TOURISM ORIENTED ORGANIZATIONS AND**  
**ESTABLISHMENTS INCLUDING PERSONS PROVIDING TOURISM-RELATED**  
**SERVICES TO UNDERGO BASIC FIRST AID TRAINING**

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

1   **SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “Tourist Safety Act.”  
2

3   **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – The State recognizes tourism as instrumental to the  
4   development of the national economy and an industry of national interest and significance.  
5   Towards this end, the State shall guarantee the promotion of sustainable tourism and the safety  
6   of tourists in the country by ensuring that the personnel in tourism-related services are  
7   equipped with the skills and training to achieve these objectives.  
8

9   “Tourism-related services” refers to services rendered to cater to the needs of tourists which  
10   include services provided by hotels, restaurants, travel agencies, tour operators, tour guide  
11   services, water recreational or sports activities, and all other entities providing similar or related  
12   services.  
13

14   **SEC. 3. First Aid Training Requirement.** – Personnel of tourism establishments, tourism-  
15   oriented organizations, and all other persons providing tourism-related services are mandated  
16   to undergo basic first aid training provided by the Philippine Red Cross (PRC) or other  
17   government accredited and reputable training institutions that shall issue appropriate training  
18   certificate for this purpose.  
19

20   **SEC. 4. First Aid Kits.** – All tourism establishments, tourism-oriented organizations and all  
21   other persons providing tourism-related services shall be equipped with first aid kits.  
22

23   **SEC. 5. Role of Local Government Units (LGUs).** – In order to ensure compliance with the  
24   provisions of the Act, the concerned LGUs shall require all establishments providing tourism-  
25   related services within their respective jurisdictions to submit a sworn statement attesting that

1 the current roster of personnel have undergone basic first aid training upon application for the  
2 issuance of business permits.

3  
4 The LGUs shall conduct periodic inspection for the compliance of Section 4 of this Act. The  
5 concerned LGUs shall register and maintain a roster of personnel of tourism-oriented  
6 organizations and all other persons providing tourism-related services. It shall likewise  
7 coordinate with the PRC or other accredited and reputable training institutions providing first  
8 aid training for these personnel.

9  
10 **SEC. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – If any provision of this Act shall be declared  
11 unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force  
12 and effect.

13  
14 **SEC. 7. *Separability Clause.*** If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional  
15 or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

16  
17 **SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, presidential  
18 decrees and other issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby  
19 deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

20  
21 **SEC. 9. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the  
22 Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation

23  
24 *Approved,*