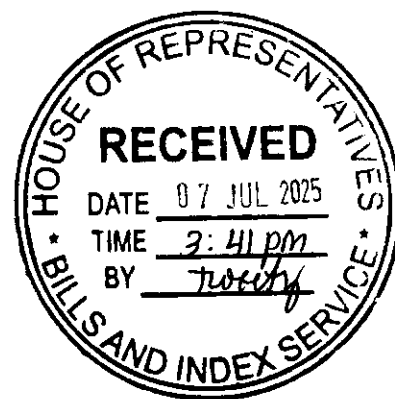




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 1486

Introduced by Representative **ANTONINO B. ROMAN III**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare Pilis Falls as an eco-tourism site in the Municipality of Samal, Province of Bataan.

Pilis Falls is located in Barangay Palili, Samal, Bataan. Its water pours down a high slanting cliff north-east of Mt. Nagpali. The falls has an approximate height of 120 feet. The unique natural formation of landslides and the thorough water drops make Pilis Falls an exceptional waterfall. The vegetation of the immediate surroundings is relatively intact forest characterized by multi-strata dipterocarp species.

Pilis Falls could easily become an international tourist haven. It offers various attractions such as beautiful mountains, a wide variety of flora and fauna wherein mountaineers and tourists can enjoy several common eco-tourism related activities such as trekking, nature viewing, bird watching, swimming, picnic, nature photography and camping.

Thus, the developments of the Pilis Falls into an eco-tourism site will not only enhance its aesthetic value but will also bring economic benefits for the people of Bataan and the whole country as well. This bill was approved on third reading and was transmitted to the Senate during the 18th Congress.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly recommended.



ANTONINO B. ROMAN III



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HOUSE BILL NO. 1486

Introduced by Representative **ANTONINO B. ROMAN III**

AN ACT
DECLARING PILIS FALLS LOCATED IN BARANGAY PALILI,
MUNICIPALITY OF SAMAL, PROVINCE OF BATAAN, AN ECOTOURISM
SITE

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

SECTION 1. The Pilis Falls located in Barangay Palili, Municipality of Samal, Province of Bataan, 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.

SEC. 2 Within sixty (60) days after the approval of this Act, the municipal government of Samal shall, in coordination with the DOT, Department of Environment and Natural Resources 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 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: *Provided. further*, That the implementation of the tourism development plan shall be included in the budget of the municipal government of Samal.

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

SEC. 4. The funding for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual budget of the municipal government of Samal. The DOT may augment such allocation with internally-generated funds.

SEC. 5. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the municipal government of Samal shall, in consultation with the DOT and concerned agencies of the government, promulgate 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,