

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

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1664**



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Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE ELEANDRO JESUS F. MADRONA

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#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

One of the emerging tourist destinations in the Province of Romblon is the Binucot Beach area, located in Barangay Bunsoran in the Municipality of Ferrol. The beach itself is known for its powdery white sand and crystal clear waters. The area also takes pride in its marine sanctuary and its Turtle Hatchery which play essential roles in the marine ecosystem and in the daily lives of the local inhabitants.

Aside from its enamoring beauty, the Binucot Beach area is also home to the Mabaho Cave, which serves as a safe habitation of various species of bats which is equally complemented by unique and beautiful rock formations of stalactite and stalagmite, guaranteed to fascinate people visiting the place. Even just this cave alone stands as “a must” for foreign and local tourists who love to engage in spelunking activities.

It is, therefore, believed that the Binucot Beach area has an enormous tourism potential which, unfortunately as of today, lies unknown to the world. However, given the proper caring and sustainable tourism development which it highly deserves, this area would definitely provide a source of revenue for the local government and local businesses, provide job opportunities to the community, improve its basic services, and most of all, contribute to the overall development of indigenous tourism areas which the Philippines is famous for.

Thus, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'E. Madrona', written in a cursive style.

**ELEANDRO JESUS F. MADRONA**

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**AN ACT**  
**DECLARING THE BINUCOT BEACH AREA, LOCATED IN BARANGAY**  
**BUNSORAN, MUNICIPALITY OF FERROL, PROVINCE OF ROMBLON, AN**  
**ECOTOURISM DESTINATION**

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

**SECTION 1.** The Binucot Beach area, located in Barangay Bunsoran in the Municipality of Ferrol, Province of Romblon, is hereby declared an ecotourism destination. 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 destinations.

**SEC. 2.** Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the Municipal Government of Ferrol 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 Ferrol.

**SEC. 3.** The DOT shall assist the Municipal Government of Ferrol in the implementation of the tourism development plan by providing technical assistance in tourism capacity building. It shall also include the Binucot Beach area 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 Ferrol.

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 Ferrol shall, in consultation with the DOT and concerned agencies of the government, promulgate rules and regulations to implement this Act.

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

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

Approved,