

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

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session



**HOUSE BILL NO. 1670**

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Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE ELEANDRO JESUS F. MADRONA

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Tourism is one of the principal engines of economic growth. It provides local employment, generates revenue for different businesses, and paves the way to enhance various infrastructure projects.

One of the thousand municipalities in the country that shows tourism potential is the Town of San Andres, known for its former names "Parpagoja," "Salado," and "Despujols." Only in 1961, through Republic Act No. 3358 signed by President Carlos P. Garcia, that the town adopted the name of its patron saint, St Andrew the Fisherman, locally known as San Andres.

Found in the western portion of the Tablas Island in the Province of Romblon, San Andres is comprised of barangays with unique landscapes and seascapes such as the calming coastal areas of Barangay Agpudlos; the family-friendly Baywalks of Barangay Poblacion and Barangay Tan-agan; the eye-catching Sapatos Point in Barangay Mabini; the majestic Mablaran Falls in Barangay Linawan; and the scenic views of Barangay Victoria. If further developed, said tourist sites could further boost the local economy and attract various investments.

This representation seeks to put the Province of Romblon in the bucket list of many travelers through the DOT's local and international promotion programs. Moreover, through legislation, this representation envisions to place San Andres in the map as one of the sought after tourism destinations in the country.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'E. Madrona'.

**ELEANDRO JESUS F. MADRONA**

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**AN ACT**  
**DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN ANDRES, PROVINCE OF ROMBLON,**  
**A TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AREA**

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

1           **SECTION 1.** The Municipality of San Andres, Province of Romblon, is hereby declared  
2 a tourism development area (TDA), and hereinafter shall be referred to as the San Andres TDA.

3           **SEC. 2.** The San Andres TDA shall include the following areas within the municipality  
4 that are endowed with scenic beauty and natural attractions:

- 5           a) Coastal areas of Barangay Agpudlos;
- 6           b) Barangays Poblacion and Tan-agan, known for their respective baywalks;
- 7           c) Barangay Mabini, where the *Sapatos* Point is located;
- 8           d) Barangay Linawan, where the Mablaran Falls is located; and
- 9           e) Mountain destinations and scenic attractions of Barangays Victoria, Marigondon Norte and  
10 Marigondon Sur.

1           **SEC. 3.** The development of the San Andres TDA shall be prioritized and supported by  
2 the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing the development  
3 of tourism destinations.

4           **SEC. 4.** Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the Municipal Government of  
5 San Andres shall, in coordination with the DOT, Department of Environment and Natural  
6 Resources, and concerned agencies of the government, prepare a tourism development plan that  
7 shall include the construction, installation, and maintenance of such appropriate infrastructure and  
8 facilities to enhance tourism in the San Andres TDA: *Provided*, That said development plan shall  
9 ensure the preservation and conservation of the natural beauty and resources of the areas: *Provided*  
10 *further*, That the implementation of the tourism development plan shall be included in the budget  
11 of the Municipal Government of San Andres.

12           **SEC. 5.** The DOT shall assist the Municipal Government of San Andres in the  
13 implementation of the tourism development plan by providing technical assistance in tourism  
14 capacity building. It shall also include the San Andres TDA in its national and regional promotion  
15 programs.

16           **SEC. 6.** The funding for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual  
17 budget of the Municipal Government of San Andres.

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

20           **SEC. 7.** Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Municipal Government  
21 of San Andres shall, in consultation with the DOT and concerned agencies of the government,  
22 promulgate rules and regulations to implement this Act.

1           **SEC. 8.** All laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, and other issuances inconsistent  
2 with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

3           **SEC. 9.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*  
4 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

5           Approved,