

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 1673

Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE ELEANDRO JESUS F. MADRONA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Suba Cove is a mangrove sanctuary serving as refuge of pump boats during typhoons in Barangay San Roque, Mangansag, and Mabini, all in the Municipality of Corcuera, Province of Romblon.

This inlet waterway with all its mangroves is a spectacular scenery by itself as well. It has, in fact, started to garner the attention of residents and local tourists as a suitable "hang-out" place.

While the tourism activity in the area is obviously a positive development as it affords the residents therein a means for their livelihood, there is a long term need, on the other hand, to balance the promotion of the tourism potential of the area viz-a-viz its natural use as a refuge during typhoons. Hence, to enhance both the preservation and sustainability of its use as a marine sanctuary and refuge area, while at the same time preserving its tourism potential, there is a need to declare the Suba Cove as an ecotourism destination.

With this in mind, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

REP. ELEANDRO JESUS F. MADRONA

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AN ACT
DECLARING THE SUBA COVE, LOCATED IN BARANGAYS SAN ROQUE,
MANGANSAG AND MABINI, MUNICIPALITY OF CORCUERA, 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 Suba Cove, located in Barangays San Roque, Mangansag, and Mabini in the Municipality of Corcuera, 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 Corcuera 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 in the area: *Provided further*, That the implementation of the tourism development plan shall be included in the budget of the Municipal Government of Corcuera.

SEC. 3. The DOT shall assist the Municipal Government of Corcuera in the implementation of the tourism development plan by providing technical assistance in tourism capacity building. It shall also include the Suba Cove 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 Corcuera.

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 Corcuera 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,