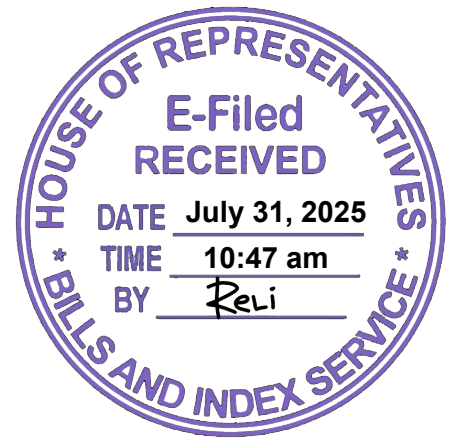


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2784



Introduced by **HON. MIGUEL LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE, HON. VINCENZO RENATO LUIGI R. VILLAFUERTE, HON. TSUYOSHI ANTHONY G. HORIBATA, AND HON. TERRY L. RIDON**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Wakeboarding as a sport emerged from a fusion of water skiing, snowboarding, and surfing techniques. It has gained increasing global popularity, with wakeboarding parks now found in major tourist destinations across the UK, Australia, the US, and beyond. It is considered one of the world's fastest-growing sports and continues to gain international recognition.

Locally, the Camarines Sur Watersports Complex (CWC) has become a top summer destination for Filipino and foreign tourists alike. Dubbed as the "best wakeboard park in the world," the six-hectare complex—the largest wakeboarding facility in Asia—is the first world-class watersports complex in the Philippines and in Asia.

CWC has been credited as the primary driver of tourism in the province and the main reason Camarines Sur consistently topped the Department of Tourism's list of tourist arrivals. In 2010, the province was declared the country's top tourist destination, recording 2.33 million visitors. This number continued to climb, reaching 3 million tourist arrivals by 2013. These milestones clearly underscore CWC's pivotal role in sustaining and growing Camarines Sur's tourism industry.

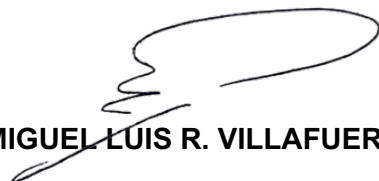
Located within the Provincial Capitol Complex in Pili, Camarines Sur, CWC operates within the first and only Local Government Unit-run Tourism Economic Zone in the country, as established under Republic Act No. 7916. The National Economic and Development Authority once described CWC's tourism record as a "breakthrough in the Bicol tourism industry," while the regional office of the Department of Tourism has consistently recognized its significance to regional tourism development.

CWC has pioneered and hosted several world-renowned wakeboarding championships and events. It was the first to host the annual WWA Wake Park World Championships in 2008, and again in 2009, 2010, 2016, and 2017. Other major events include the Asian Wakepark Championship (2008, 2009), the Reef Asian Wakefest (2010), the King of Wake – Asian Wakepark Tour of WWA (2012, 2013), and the Philippine Wakeboard Nationals, held annually at the complex since 2006.

The complex has consistently attracted water sports enthusiasts from all over the world and remains a favorite by both foreign and local travelers. In 2016, CWC signed a three-year agreement to continue hosting the world championships. Having hosted the event since its inception, CWC remains a highly sought-after venue by international riders. Many attendees extend their stay due to the complex's affordability and world-class amenities.

This proposed bill intends to ride the growth of wakeboarding and watersports in the country, especially in Camarines Sur, and help promote tourism in the province by declaring Camarines Sur as the Wakeboarding Capital of the Philippines.

This measure was originally filed during the 17th Congress, refiled and approved on Third Reading in the 18th Congress, and subsequently refiled in the 19th Congress.




HON. MIGUEL LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE



HON. VINCENZO RENATO LUIGI R. VILLAFUERTE



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**AN ACT DECLARING THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR AS THE
"WAKEBOARDING CAPITAL OF THE PHILIPPINES"**

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

SECTION 1. The Province of Camarines Sur, being a top destination for water sports in the country, is hereby declared the "Wakeboarding Capital of the Philippines". Pursuant thereto, its development and promotion shall be prioritized and supported by the Department of Tourism and its concerned attached agencies.

All efforts pertaining to the promotion of tourism in the Province of Camarines Sur and making its tourism industry a major source of livelihood and employment shall be rationalized.

SECTION 2. All laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, presidential decrees and other issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

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

Approved,