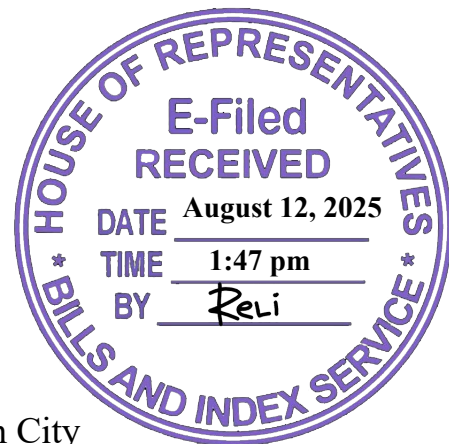




Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Constitution Hills, Batasan Complex, Quezon City



TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **3566**

Introduced by Representatives **ALFEL M. BASCUG** and **EDDIEBONG G. PLAZA**

AN ACT
DECLARING THE BEGA FALLS LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY
OF PROSPERIDAD, PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL SUR,
AN ECOTOURISM SITE

Explanatory Note

This bill seeks to declare Bega Falls located in Barangay Mabuhay, Municipality of Prosperidad, Province of Agusan del Sur as an ecotourism site.

Bega Falls is a four-tiered waterfall located in Barangay Mabuhay, Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur. Surrounded by the abundant greenery of Agusan del Sur's forest and mountains, this majestic waterfall is considered a hidden treasure of the province. Also, being situated in the midst of a lush forest, the place has become a home to various attractions such as beautiful mountains and a wide variety of flora and fauna, in which tourists can enjoy numerous common ecotourism-related activities such as trekking, swimming, bird watching, picnics, camping, nature viewing, and nature photography. However, this hidden gem of a tourist attraction has never been publicly exposed to other tourists in the Philippines or the world. With the lack of needed development and promotion, the tourism potential of the place has been curtailed.

Thus, in order for this spot to be developed into a fully grown tourist destination, it should be declared as an ecotourism site. The development of Bega

Falls into an ecotourism site will not just enhance its aesthetic value but will also boost local government income and create employment opportunities for the people of Agusan del Sur.

Notably, this measure has been previously filed in the 18th and 19th Congress. The bill had been approved by the House of Representatives on 3rd Reading and had been duly transmitted to the Senate.

The immediate passage of this bill is hereby earnestly sought.


ALFEL M. BASCUG
1ST District, Agusan del Sur


EDDIEBONG G. PLAZA
2nd District, Agusan del Sur



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

SECTION 1. The Bega Falls located in the Municipality of Prosperidad, Province of Agusan del Sur, is hereby declared an ecotourism site. Pursuant thereto, its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

SECTION 2. The technical description of the area to be declared as ecotourism site is as follows:

AREA	2,754,061.0085 SQM.			
PERIMETER	12,856.511 M	EASTING	NORTHING	DISTANCE (m.)
	1	827686.2831	963036.06	151.5895488
	2	827705.9176	963186.3726	79.78076925
	3	827768.9501	963235.2794	90.36002089
	4	827858.7435	963245.3828	43.66997543
	5	827901.2211	963255.5179	39.39029665

6	827903.7161	963294.8291	177.7900478
7	827997.0434	963446.1543	122.4599269
8	828057.9588	963552.3887	143.5073823
9	828168.6226	963643.7555	73.8700031
10	828237.8507	963669.5285	75.76001251
11	828296.3764	963717.6359	39.90173394
12	828333.3191	963732.7152	210.0000326
13	828505.719	963852.6247	198.2776798
14	828667.3101	963967.5262	66.03363724
15	828707.5912	964019.8509	198.5499964
16	828828.6811	964177.2019	91.33995845
17	828907.4471	964223.4502	228.8495201
18	829107.282	964334.9765	184.3901918
19	829059.6119	964513.0981	265.0499839
20	828907.8895	964730.4269	238.6869581
21	829039.7762	964929.3675	1642.859933
22	830637.779	965310.6493	310.7199781
23	830439.2671	965071.6097	247.7698837
24	830530.0206	964841.0588	136.5399379
25	830403.4854	964789.7558	134.9000667
26	830380.0289	964656.9107	58.06002541
27	830321.9867	964655.4721	41.20003548
28	830282.6906	964643.0923	54.249986
29	830272.0789	964589.8903	124.7199093
30	830167.0511	964522.628	262.7400141
31	830304.1491	964298.4931	188.3299834
32	830292.9902	964110.494	121.0300968
33	830379.0422	964025.3862	244.1299946
34	830239.6665	963824.952	192.3499854
35	830184.1349	963640.7924	275.637493
36	829924.4549	963733.2171	128.6699724
37	829900.2641	963859.5926	162.0399879
38	829755.4427	963786.9034	180.9299581
39	829636.219	963922.9966	199.0300018
40	829577.264	963732.8986	244.7199867
41	829334.7144	963700.3784	62.12996509
42	829361.7848	963756.3009	72.49001535
43	829434.2171	963759.193	58.74002623
44	829474.3253	963802.1083	342.188516
45	829267.7455	964074.9045	99.88995951
46	829191.6978	964010.1376	206.3900447
47	828993.7251	963951.7967	167.5199674
48	828857.2085	963854.7083	184.9200212
49	828786.2036	963683.9637	113.9599677
50	828759.4451	963573.1898	109.4300504
51	828728.2185	963468.3097	141.2699903
52	828630.8313	963365.9723	47.04003541

53	828594.0584	963395.3069	100.2599413
54	828493.9001	963399.8203	247.4799345
55	828379.3194	963180.4631	345.7919058
56	828093.8591	962985.3107	122.9400128
57	828106.5387	962863.0263	58.59006688
58	828053.6209	962837.8767	161.079925
59	827899.9286	962789.6541	170.289789
60	827732.2052	962760.2012	105.4099475
61	827628.9409	962781.3611	138.6400046
62	827502.7035	962724.0447	179.7562922
63	827345.5668	962636.7499	50.80999902
64	827295.7627	962626.6897	88.51004743
65	827211.3865	962653.4233	85.20993639
66	827126.3283	962648.3404	354.8199674
67	826843.3801	962862.4374	90.56006017
68	826759.7621	962897.2103	100.0000174
69	826787.4604	962993.2978	126.2300444
70	826812.7997	963116.9584	99.99994072
71	826853.0161	963208.5151	204.0800061
72	827044.6907	963138.4473	89.64003432
73	827129.2309	963168.2515	110.8699658
74	827202.8117	963251.1853	96.2399878
75	827294.5568	963222.1169	78.68001505
76	827369.9654	963199.665	60.39672484
77	827424.2672	963173.2249	83.79999276
78	827484.9728	963115.4558	92.49106209
79	827548.7613	963048.481	138.0815944

SECTION 3. Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the municipal government of Prosperidad 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 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 Prosperidad.

SECTION 4. The DOT shall assist the municipal government of Prosperidad in the implementation of the tourism development plan by providing technical assistance in tourism capacity building. It shall also include the Bega Falls in its national and regional promotion programs.

SECTION 5. The funding for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual budget of the municipal government of Prosperidad. The DOT may augment such allocation with internally-generated funds.

SECTION 6. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the municipal government of Prosperidad shall, in consultation with the DOT and concerned agencies of the government, promulgate rules and regulations to implement this Act.

SECTION 7. 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.

SECTION 8. 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.

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

Approved,