



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Philippines

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8925



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE CARLOS ANDES LORIA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Province of Albay is home to the world-famous Mayon Volcano, considered one of the most perfectly shaped volcanoes in the world, as well as a rich array of natural, cultural, and historical attractions. Despite its global recognition, Albay has yet to fully harness its panoramic volcanic landscapes through modern, sustainable, and globally competitive tourism infrastructure.

The proposed Albay Aerial Panorama Tourism System envisions the establishment of the first large-scale volcanic panoramic aerial cable car tourism system in the Philippines. This system will provide elevated, low-impact access to Albay's rolling hills, limestone formations, and unparalleled Mayon Volcano vistas, while integrating eco-tourism, hospitality, cultural experiences, and community-based enterprises.

Anchored in the municipalities of Daraga, Camalig, Guinobatan, and Legazpi City, and leveraging proximity to the Bicol International Airport, the project aims to position Albay as the premier nature-based tourism gateway of Southern Luzon and the Bicol Region. The project is designed as a fully integrated tourism ecosystem combining aerial mobility, eco-adventure loops, resort gateways, and ground excursion networks.

The development is projected to attract over one million tourists annually, generate thousands of jobs, stimulate local enterprise, and significantly increase tourism revenues while ensuring environmental sustainability and disaster resilience—particularly in a province exposed to volcanic, seismic, and climatic risks.

This bill therefore seeks to institutionalize the Albay Aerial Panorama Tourism Zone, mandate sustainable and inclusive development, establish a robust Public-Private Partnership framework, and ensure long-term economic, environmental, and social benefits for the people of Albay and the nation.

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


CARLOS A. LORIA
2nd District Albay



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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE ALBAY AERIAL PANORAMA TOURISM ZONE AND
AERIAL CABLE CAR TOURISM SYSTEM, PROVIDING FOR ITS
DEVELOPMENT UNDER A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP
FRAMEWORK, INSTITUTIONALIZING SUSTAINABLE AND
COMMUNITY-BASED TOURISM, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** This Act shall be known as the: “Albay Aerial Panorama
2 Tourism Zone Development Act.”
3

4 **SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** It is hereby declared the policy of the State to:
5

- 6 a. Promote sustainable, inclusive, and disaster-resilient tourism development;
7 b. Encourage private sector participation in tourism infrastructure through
8 Public-Private Partnerships;
9 c. Enhance regional economic growth and employment through tourism
10 investments;
11 d. Protect and conserve natural, cultural, and environmental resources;
12 e. Support community-based tourism and local enterprise development; and
13 f. Position Albay as a flagship eco-tourism destination in Southeast Asia.
14

15 **SECTION 3. Creation of the Albay Aerial Panorama Tourism Zone.** There is
16 hereby created the Albay Aerial Panorama Tourism Zone (AAPT Zone) covering
17 strategic tourism areas within the Province of Albay, including but not limited to the
18 municipalities and city of:
19

- 20 a. Daraga;
21 b. Camalig;
22 c. Guinobatan; and
23 d. Legazpi City.

1 The Zone shall include, among others:

- 2
- 3 a. Quitinday Green Hills;
- 4 b. Bantonan Hills;
- 5 c. Agay Hills;
- 6 d. Solong limestone formations and caves;
- 7 e. Agpay Highlands; and
- 8 f. Other surrounding scenic landscapes offering panoramic views of Mayon
- 9 Volcano and the Albay Gulf.

10

11 **SECTION 4. Establishment of the Albay Aerial Panorama Tourism System.**

12 Within the Tourism Zone, there shall be established a modern aerial cable car tourism

13 system designed to provide safe, sustainable, and panoramic access to Albay's natural

14 attractions.

15 The system shall include:

- 16
- 17 a. A gondola-based aerial cable car network;
- 18 b. Scenic viewing and turnaround stations;
- 19 c. Eco-adventure and tourism access points;
- 20 d. Visitor centers and transport terminals;
- 21 e. Integrated resort and hospitality facilities; and
- 22 f. Supporting tourism and commercial facilities.

23

24 **SECTION 5. Major Infrastructure Components.**

25

26 I. Aerial Cable Car Network

27

28 The system shall utilize a detachable gondola technology with the following minimum

29 features:

- 30
- 31 a. Cabins accommodating 10–12 passengers;
- 32 b. Passenger throughput of 1,000–1,500 passengers per hour;
- 33 c. Total route length of approximately 20–30 kilometers;
- 34 d. Glass-floor or panoramic viewing cabins, where feasible;
- 35 e. Seismic-resistant and volcanic-resilient structures;
- 36 f. Smart monitoring, safety, and emergency response systems.

37

38 II. Daraga Gateway Tourism Hub

39

40 A primary tourism gateway shall be established within Daraga, near the Bicol

41 International Airport, to serve as the main staging area. Facilities may include:

- 42
- 43 a. Cable car main terminal;
- 44 b. Eco-luxury resort and hotel facilities;
- 45 c. Convention and events spaces;
- 46 d. Tourism commercial district;
- 47 e. Transport interchange and visitor orientation center.

48

49 III. Camalig Eco-Adventure Loop

1 An integrated eco-tourism aerial circuit connecting:

- 2
- 3 a. Quituinan Hills;
- 4 b. Solong Eco Park;
- 5 c. Quitinday Hills;
- 6 d. Tagaytay Ridge viewpoints.
- 7

8 This loop shall feature ecological, historical, and cultural tourism experiences,
9 including cave exploration, hilltop viewing decks, and heritage interpretation areas.

10
11 **SECTION 6. Public-Private Partnership Framework.** The project shall be
12 implemented through a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) in accordance with the PPP
13 Code of the Philippines.

14 The Provincial Government of Albay shall serve as the Implementing Agency, in
15 coordination with national government agencies, while the private sector shall
16 undertake financing, engineering design, construction, operation, and maintenance.
17 PPP modalities may include:

- 18
- 19 a. Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT);
- 20 b. Design-Build-Finance-Operate-Transfer (DBFOT); or
- 21 c. Other legally authorized arrangements.
- 22

23 **SECTION 7. Environmental and Disaster-Resilience Safeguards.** All components
24 shall strictly comply with:

- 25
- 26 a. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) requirements;
- 27 b. Biodiversity and wildlife protection measures;
- 28 c. Reforestation and watershed management programs;
- 29 d. Climate-resilient and disaster-responsive engineering standards;
- 30 e. Volcanic monitoring coordination with PHIVOLCS; and
- 31 f. Renewable energy and low-carbon transport integration, where feasible.
- 32

33 **SECTION 8. Community Development and Inclusive Tourism.** The development
34 of the Tourism Zone shall ensure inclusive growth through:

- 35 a. Local hiring and skills development programs;
- 36 b. Support for local agriculture, crafts, transport, and tourism SMEs;
- 37 c. Community-based tourism enterprises and cultural experiences;
- 38 d. Revenue-sharing or benefit-sharing mechanisms with host barangays; and
- 39 e. Safeguards for indigenous culture and local heritage.
- 40

41 **SECTION 9. Incentives.** Registered enterprises operating within the Tourism Zone
42 may be entitled to incentives under applicable laws, including:

- 43
- 44 a. Investment facilitation assistance;
- 45 b. Tax incentives subject to national laws; and
- 46 c. Priority infrastructure support.
- 47

48 **SECTION 10. Implementing Agencies.** The following agencies shall coordinate in
49 the implementation of this Act:

- a. Department of Tourism (DOT);
- b. Provincial Government of Albay;
- c. Public-Private Partnership Center;
- d. Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR);
- e. Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH);
- f. Department of Transportation (DOTr); and
- g. Other relevant agencies.

SECTION 11. Appropriations. Funds necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be sourced from available appropriations of concerned agencies and such amounts as may be provided in the annual General Appropriations Act, subject to PPP arrangements.

SECTION 12. Implementing Rules and Regulations. Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the concerned agencies shall promulgate the Implementing Rules and Regulations.

SECTION 13. Separability Clause. If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 14. Repealing Clause. All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules, and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,