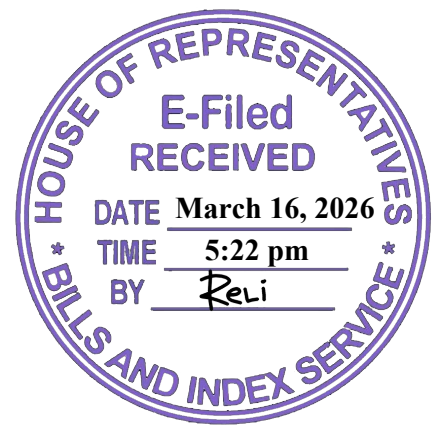


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 186

Submitted by the Committees on Tourism and Appropriations on **March 16, 2026**

Re : House Bill No. **8565**

Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 902

Sponsors : Representatives Eleandro Jesus F. Madrona, Mikaela Angela B. Suansing, and
John Tracy F. Cagas

Mr. Speaker:

The Committees on Tourism and Appropriations to which was referred House Bill No. 902, introduced by Representative John Tracy F. Cagas, entitled:

**“AN ACT
DECLARING PASSIG ISLET LOCATED IN BARANGAY BATO,
MUNICIPALITY OF STA. CRUZ, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL SUR,
AN ECOTOURISM SITE”**

have considered the same and recommend that the attached House Bill No. **8565**, entitled:

**“AN ACT
DECLARING THE PASSIG ISLET, LOCATED IN BARANGAY
BATO, MUNICIPALITY OF STA. CRUZ, PROVINCE OF DAVAO
DEL SUR, AS AN ECOTOURISM SITE”**

be approved in substitution of House Bill No. 902 with Representatives John Tracy F. Cagas, Eleandro Jesus F. Madrona, Junard “Ahong” Q. Chan, Rosalie Ang Salvame, Rommel Rico T. Angara, Jose C. Alvarez, Elisa “Olga” T. Kho, Dibu S. Tuan, Florencio T. Miraflores, Tsuyoshi Anthony “Hori” G. Horibata, John Geesnell “Baba” Yap, Caroline B. Agyao, MD, Ustadz Yusop T. Alano, Maximo Y. Dalog, Jr., Romeo S. Momo, Sr., Ronald V. Singson, Patricia C. Calderon, Rebecca Maria Alcantara Ynares, Dale B. Corvera, Celso G. Regencia, Jane T. Castro, Alyssa Michaela “Mica” M. Gonzales, Binky April M. Tupas, Salvador A. Pleyto, Marlo C. Bancoro, Eulogio “Leo” R. Rodriguez, Ferdinand “B1” L. Beltran, Niko Raul S.J. Daza, Rachel Marguerite B. Del Mar, Howard A. Guintu, Angelo Marcos Barba, Timothy Joseph E. Cayton, King Collantes, Antonino B. Roman III, Laarni Lavin Roque, Alfonso V. Umali, Jr., and Lordan G. Suan as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted,



REP. MIKAELA ANGELA B. SUANSING

Chairperson

Committee on Appropriations



REP. ELEANDRO JESUS F. MADRONA

Chairperson

Committee on Tourism

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
QUEZON CITY

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8565
(In substitution of House Bill No. 902)

Introduced by Representatives John Tracy F. Cagas, Eleandro Jesus F. Madrona, Junard “Ahong” Q. Chan, Rosalie Ang Salvame, Rommel Rico T. Angara, Jose C. Alvarez, Elisa “Olga” T. Kho, Dibu S. Tuan, Florencio T. Miraflores, Tsuyoshi Anthony “Hori” G. Horibata, John Geesnell “Baba” Yap, Caroline B. Agyao, MD, Ustadz Yusop T. Alano, Maximo Y. Dalog, Jr., Romeo S. Momo, Sr., Ronald V. Singson, Patricia C. Calderon, Rebecca Maria Alcantara Ynares, Dale B. Corvera, Celso G. Regencia, Jane T. Castro, Alyssa Michaela “Mica” M. Gonzales, Binky April M. Tupas, Salvador A. Pleyto, Marlo C. Bancoro, Eulogio “Leo” R. Rodriguez, Ferdinand “B1” L. Beltran, Niko Raul S.J. Daza, Rachel Marguerite B. Del Mar, Howard A. Guintu, Angelo Marcos Barba, Timothy Joseph E. Cayton, King Collantes, Antonino B. Roman III, Laarni Lavin Roque, Alfonso V. Umali, Jr., and Lordan G. Suan

AN ACT
DECLARING THE PASSIG ISLET, LOCATED IN BARANGAY BATO, MUNICIPALITY OF STA. CRUZ, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL SUR, AS AN ECOTOURISM SITE

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

1 **SECTION 1.** The Passig Islet, located in Barangay Bato, Municipality of Sta. Cruz,
2 Province of Davao del Sur, is hereby declared an ecotourism site. As such, its development shall
3 be prioritized and supported by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and
4 regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

5 **SEC. 2.** Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the Municipal Government of
6 Sta. Cruz shall, in coordination with the DOT and concerned agencies of the government, prepare
7 a tourism development plan that shall include the construction, installation, and maintenance of
8 such appropriate infrastructure and facilities to enhance tourism in the area: *Provided, That said*

1 development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the natural beauty and
2 resources of the area: *Provided, further,* That the implementation of the tourism development plan
3 shall be included in the budget of the Municipal Government of Sta. Cruz.

4 **SEC. 3.** The DOT shall assist the Municipal Government of Sta. Cruz in the
5 implementation of the tourism development plan by providing technical assistance in tourism
6 capacity building. It shall also include the Passig Islet in its national and regional promotion
7 programs.

8 **SEC. 4.** The funding for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual
9 budget of the Municipal Government of Sta. Cruz. The DOT may augment such allocation with
10 internally generated funds.

11 **SEC. 5.** Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the Municipal Government
12 of Sta. Cruz shall, in consultation with the DOT and concerned agencies of the government,
13 promulgate the rules and regulations to implement this Act.

14 **SEC. 6.** All laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, proclamations, presidential decrees,
15 and other issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed
16 or amended accordingly.

17 **SEC. 7.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*
18 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,