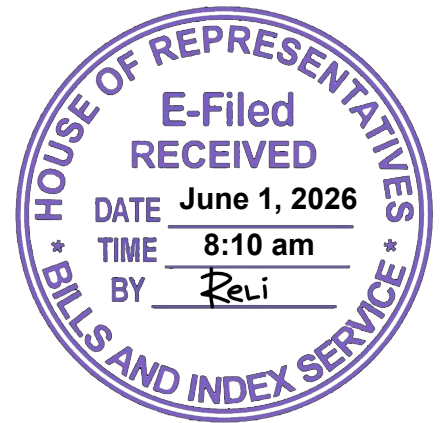


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 401

Submitted by the Committees on Tourism and Appropriations on **June 1, 2026**

Re : House Bill No. **9543**

Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 4993

Sponsors : Representatives Eleandro Jesus F. Madrona, Mikaela Angela B. Suansing,
and Christopherson "Coco" M. Yap

Mr. Speaker:

The Committees on Tourism and Appropriations to which was referred House Bill No. 4993, introduced by Representative Christopherson "Coco" M. Yap, entitled:

**"AN ACT
DECLARING BARANGAY NAPANTAO IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN FRANCISCO, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"**

have considered the same and recommend that the attached House Bill No. **9543**, entitled:

**"AN ACT
DECLARING BARANGAY NAPANTAO IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN FRANCISCO, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE, AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE"**

be approved in substitution of House Bill No. 4993 with Representatives Christopherson "Coco" M. Yap, Eleandro Jesus F. Madrona, and Mikaela Angela B. Suansing 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, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9543
(In substitution of House Bill No. 4993)

Introduced by Representatives Christopherson “Coco” M. Yap, Eleandro Jesus F. Madrona, and Mikaela Angela B. Suansing

AN ACT
DECLARING BARANGAY NAPANTAO IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN FRANCISCO, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE, AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Barangay Napantao in the Municipality of San Francisco,
2 Province of Southern Leyte, is hereby declared an ecotourism zone. Pursuant thereto,
3 its development shall be prioritized and supported by the Department of Tourism
4 (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism
5 zones.

6 **SEC. 2.** Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the Provincial
7 Government of Southern Leyte shall, in coordination with the Municipal Government
8 of San Francisco, DOT, Department of Environment and Natural Resources,
9 Department of Public Works and Highways, and concerned agencies of the
10 government, prepare a tourism development plan that shall include the construction,
11 installation, and maintenance of such appropriate infrastructure and facilities to
12 enhance tourism in the area: *Provided*, That said development plan shall ensure the

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

4 **SEC. 3.** The DOT shall assist the Provincial Government of Southern Leyte
5 and the Municipal Government of San Francisco in the implementation of the tourism
6 development plan by providing technical assistance in tourism capacity building. It
7 shall also include Barangay Napantao in its national and regional promotion programs.

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

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

15 **SEC. 6.** If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid,
16 the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

17 **SEC. 7.** All laws, rules, regulations, presidential decrees, and other issuances
18 inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or
19 amended accordingly.

20 **SEC. 8.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
21 *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

22 Approved,