



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 9482

BY REPRESENTATIVES PLAZA, BASCUG, MADRONA, SUANSING (M.A.), CHAN (J.), SALVAME, ANGARA, ALVAREZ (J.), KHO (E.), TUAN, MIRAFLORES, HORIBATA, YAP (J.G.), AGYAO, ALANO, DALOG, MOMO, SINGSON (R.V.), CALDERON, YNARES, CORVERA, REGENCIA, CASTRO, GONZALES (A.M.), TUPAS, PLEYTO, BANCORO, RODRIGUEZ (E.), BELTRAN, DAZA, DEL MAR, GUINTU, BARBA, CAGAS, CAYTON, COLLANTES, ROMAN, ROQUE, UMALI, SUAN AND ATAYDE

AN ACT

DECLARING THE LAKE HIMBANG, LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TALACOGON, PROVINCE OF AGUSAN 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 Lake Himbang, located in the Municipality of Talacogon, Province
2 of Agusan del Sur, is hereby declared an ecotourism site. Pursuant thereto, its development
3 shall be prioritized and supported by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules
4 and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

5 **SEC. 2.** Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the Municipal Government
6 of Talacogon shall, in coordination with the DOT, Department of Environment and Natural
7 Resources, and concerned agencies of the government, prepare a tourism development plan
8 that shall include the construction, installation, and maintenance of such appropriate

1 infrastructure and facilities to enhance tourism in the area: *Provided*, That said development
2 plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the natural beauty and resources of the
3 area: *Provided, further*, That the implementation of the tourism development plan shall be
4 included in the budget of the Municipal Government of Talacogon.

5 **SEC. 3.** The DOT shall assist the Municipal Government of Talacogon in the
6 implementation of the tourism development plan by providing technical assistance in tourism
7 capacity building. It shall also include Lake Himbang in its national and regional promotion
8 programs.

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

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

15 **SEC. 6.** If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the
16 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 amended
19 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.

Approved,