



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 9540

BY REPRESENTATIVES BASCUG, PLAZA, 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 PINANDAGATAN FALLS, LOCATED IN BARANGAY NEW TUBIGON, MUNICIPALITY OF SIBAGAT, 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 Pinandagatan Falls, located in Barangay New Tubigon,
2 Municipality of Sibagat, Province of Agusan del Sur, is hereby declared an ecotourism
3 site. Pursuant thereto, its development shall be prioritized and supported by the
4 Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing the
5 development of ecotourism sites.

6 **SEC. 2.** Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the Municipal
7 Government of Sibagat shall, in coordination with the DOT, Department of
8 Environment and Natural Resources, and concerned agencies of the government,
9 prepare a tourism development plan that shall include the construction, installation,
10 and maintenance of such appropriate infrastructure and facilities to enhance tourism
11 in the area: *Provided*, That said development plan shall ensure the preservation and
12 conservation of the natural beauty and resources of the area: *Provided, further*, That
13 the implementation of the tourism development plan shall be included in the budget
14 of the Municipal Government of Sibagat.

1 **SEC. 3.** The DOT shall assist the Municipal Government of Sibagat in the
2 implementation of the tourism development plan by providing technical assistance in
3 tourism capacity building. It shall also include Pinandagatan Falls in its national and
4 regional promotion programs.

5 **SEC. 4.** The funding for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the
6 annual budget of the Municipal Government of Sibagat. The DOT may augment such
7 allocation with internally generated funds.

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

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

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14 inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or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

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

Approved,