



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 9543

BY REPRESENTATIVES YAP (C.), MADRONA AND SUANSING (M.A.)

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.

Approved,