Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City  

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session  

HOUSE BILL NO. 2641  

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Introduced by Representative Fidel Nograles  

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EXPLANATORY NOTE  

The state is very cognizant of its policy to promote a tourism industry that is sustainable, cultural, ecological, accountable, economically feasible, ethically and socially equitable to all its inhabiting populace.  

In pursuant to Republic Act 9593 (Tourism Act of 2009), it is certain that these marvelous gifts of nature shall realize such improvement and be an added source of income for its local government and all its residents.  

Regina Rica in the Municipality of Tanay, Province of Rizal hosts a scenic complex featuring an elevated path often visited as a place of prayer, pilgrimage and finding peace. Regina Rica is a very tranquil place to spend time with friends, relatives and loved ones.  

Developing and enhancing the beauty of this ecological sanctuary and wellness environment will surely generate investment and foreign exchange in the area, while providing employment opportunities for the local government and residents within the area.
This House Bill seeks to declare *Regina Rica* in the Municipality of Tanay, Province of Rizal as a *tourist destination*.

Thus, the early passage of this bill is earnestly requested.

[Signature]

JUAN FIDEL NOGRALES
Republic of the Philippines

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AN ACT

DECLARING REGINA RICA IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TANAY, PROVINCE OF RIZAL AS A TOURIST DESTINATION, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. DECLARATION OF POLICY – The Regina Rica is hereby declared a tourist destination.

It shall be conferred a priority development by the Department of Tourism (DOT), and shall be the subject to the rules and regulations governing the existing development programs of a worthy tourist destination. The DOT shall prioritize the establishment of a tourist center to be known as the Regina Rica Tourist Center.

SECTION 2. The DOT, in accordance with the Department of Public Works and Highways, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Department
of the Internal and Local Government, and other concerned government agencies
and institutions of the state, together with the Local Government Units (LGUs)
and civil society organizations, shall within one (1) year from the approval of this
act, shall formulate a comprehensive development plan involving the
construction, installation and maintenance of such applicable facilities and
infrastructure that shall enhance, develop and promote the tourism sector in the
area, and improve accessibility and ensure the security of tourists. *Provided,
that* the development plan shall therefore ensure the preservation and
conservation of the natural beauty, historical significance and resources of the
area.

**SECTION 3.** The DOT, in coordination with all other agencies and
institutions concerned, shall therefore make immediate actions in implementing
the development plan that will fit the natural features of *Regina Rica*, and shall
integrate the same in its overall development programs.

**SECTION 4.** It shall also be a declared responsibility of the DOT to foster
*Regina Rica* as a tourist destination in all its local, regional and national
promotion plans and programs.

**SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION** – The Secretary of Tourism shall include
in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, and the amount
necessary to carry out the provisions of this act shall be included in the General
Appropriations Act *(GAA)* and from internally generated funds of the DOT of the
year following its enactment into a law and thereafter.

**SECTION 6. TRANSITORY PROVISION** – Existing agencies, industries,
businesses and offices affected by the implementation of this Act shall be given
six (6) months transitory period from the effectivity of the IRR or such other
period as may be determined, to comply with the requirements of this Act.

**SECTION 7. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS.** – The DOT
shall be charged with carrying out the provisions of this Act shall, within sixty
(60) days after the effectivity of this Act, formulate the necessary rules and regulations for its effective implementation.

SECTION 8. REPEALING CLAUSE. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. – If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 10. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation whichever comes earlier.

Approved,