

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2696**



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**INTRODUCED BY: REPRESENTATIVE MARISOL C. PANOTES**

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#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This Bill seeks to declare the Province of Camarines Norte as the Surfing Capital in the Bicol Region.

The coastal Barangay Bagasbas in the Municipality of Daet, the capital town of the Province of Camarines Norte has become one of the major tourist destinations in the Bicol Region due to the giant curly waves along the coastlines that had attracted local and foreign tourists, who are surfing *aficionados*.

The realization of the noble objective of this bill will certainly help develop not only this coastal barangay but the entire Province of Camarines Norte due to the possible influx of surfers that will greatly contribute to further growth of tourism in the Bicol Region. This is primarily due to the fact that this bill, once enacted into law, mandates the DOT, in coordination with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), and other concerned government agencies, to prepare a tourism development plan involving the construction, installation, and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and infrastructure that shall develop and promote the beaches and surfing activities of the Province of Camarines Norte, and therefore, ensuring accessibility and security of tourists thereat.

The foregoing reasons warrant the approval of this bill.

  
**MARISOL C. PANOTES**  
Representative  
Second District, Camarines Norte

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**2696**  
HOUSE BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

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**INTRODUCED BY: REPRESENTATIVE MARISOL C. PANOTES**

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**AN ACT**  
**DECLARING THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES NORTE AS THE SURFING**  
**CAPITAL OF THE BICOL REGION**

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

**SECTION 1.** This Act shall be known as the “Camarines Norte Surfing Capital of the Bicol Region Act”.

**SEC. 2.** The Province of Camarines Norte is hereby declared a tourist destination and the “Surfing Capital of the Bicol Region”. As such, its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and other concerned government agencies, and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of tourist destinations.

**SEC. 3.** Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the DOT, in coordination with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), and other concerned government agencies, shall prepare a tourism development plan involving the construction, installation, and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and infrastructure that shall develop and promote the beaches and surfing activities of the Province of Camarines Norte, and ensuring accessibility and security of tourists thereat.

**SEC. 4.** The DOT, in coordination with other concerned government agencies, shall take immediate steps to implement the developmental plan and shall incorporate the same in its tourism developmental programs for the ensuing calendar year.

**SEC. 5.** The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department’s program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.

**SEC. 6.** Within ninety (90) days after the effectivity of this Act, the DOT, in consultation with the local government of the Province of Camarines Norte shall formulate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

**SEC. 7. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a national newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*