Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City, Metro Manila  

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session  

House Bill No. 5262  

Introduced by Representative Sol Aragones  

EXPLANATORY NOTE  

The Municipality of Calauan in the Province of Laguna is a 2nd class municipality in the province of Laguna, Philippines. According to the 2015 census, it has a population of 80,453 people.

As a tourist destination, Calauan is known for the sweetest pineapples across the country. The fertile lands of the town saw an increase in the population of farmers as well as land area used for pineapple farm in the past centuries. Throughout the years, the abundance of pineapples has provided economic opportunities for the town as well as food and livelihood for the citizens of the town. In order to maintain and improve its industry and push the town to positive and sustainable development, steps protecting the natural resources of the town must be sought.

This proposal seeks to declare the Municipality of Calauan as an ecotourism zone and appropriate funds for the purpose. With the proposal to develop Calauan into an ecotourism zone, we hope to generate economic growth by providing employment opportunities through tourism activities among the residents of the municipality. Other tourism related industries will also spur further economic development in the area by providing local employment opportunities through hotels, resorts, restaurants, transportation services, souvenir shops, among others.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

SOL ARAGONES  
3RD District, Laguna
AN ACT DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF CALAUAN, PROVINCE OF LAGUNA, AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Declaring Calauan, Laguna as an Ecotourism Zone. - The Municipality of Calauan, Province of Laguna is hereby declared as an ecotourism zone. As such, priority development of the Municipality of Calauan shall be made by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of tourist zone.

SECTION 2. Role of Agencies. - The DOT, in coordination with the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority and other concerned agencies of the government, shall, within six (6) months after the approval of this Act, prepare the development plan involving the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and infrastructure which shall enhance tourism in the area: Provided, that said development plan shall ensure the preservation of the natural beauty and historical significance thereof.

SECTION 3. Secretary of Tourism. - The Secretary of Tourism shall take immediate steps to implement the said development plan and incorporate the same in the overall tourism development program of the Department for the ensuing calendar year.

SECTION 4. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - The Secretary of Tourism shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.
SECTION 5. Appropriations. - The amount needed for the immediate implementation of this Act is hereby appropriated from the funds of the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated. Thereafter sum as maybe needed for the continued implementation, operation and maintenance shall be included in the annual General Appropriation Act.

SECTION 6. Effectivity. - This act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved.