

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Seventeenth Congress
Second Regular Session



COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 478

Submitted by the Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Appropriations on 21 NOV 2017
Re : House Bill No. 6681
Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 1063
Sponsors : Representatives Lucy Torres-Gomez, Karlo Alexei B. Nograles and Scott Davies S. Lanete, M.D.

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Appropriations, to which was referred House Bill No. 1063, introduced by Representative Scott Davies S. Lanete, M.D., entitled:

AN ACT
DECLARING THE PORTA VEGA BEACH AND ITS PREMISES AS AN
ECOTOURISM SITE, ESTABLISHING THE PORTA VEGA ECOTOURISM
COUNCIL, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES


have considered the same and recommend that the attached House Bill No. 6681, entitled:

AN ACT
DECLARING THE PORTA VEGA BEACH AND THE SHORELINES OF
BARANGAYS T.R. YANGCO, CADULAN AND DIVISORIA, ALL LOCATED
IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF DIMASALANG, PROVINCE OF MASBATE AN
ECOTOURISM SITE, ESTABLISHING THE PORTA VEGA ECOTOURISM
COUNCIL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

be approved in substitution of House Bill No. 1063 with Representatives Scott Davies S. Lanete, M.D. and Karlo Alexei B. Nograles as authors thereof .

Respectfully submitted,


REP. KARLO ALEXEI B. NOGRALES
Chairperson
Committee on Appropriations


REP. LUCY TORRES-GOMEZ
Chairperson
Committee on Tourism

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
QUEZON CITY

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Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6681

Introduced by Representatives Scott Davies S. Lanete, M.D. and Karlo Alexei B. Nograles

AN ACT
DECLARING THE PORTA VEGA BEACH AND THE SHORELINES OF BARANGAYS T.R. YANGCO, CADULAN AND DIVISORIA, ALL LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF DIMASALANG, PROVINCE OF MASBATE AN ECOTOURISM SITE, ESTABLISHING THE PORTA VEGA ECOTOURISM COUNCIL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **SECTION 1.** This Act shall be known as the “Porta Vega Ecotourism Act”.

2 **Sec. 2.** It is hereby declared the policy of the State to ensure the right of the people to
3 a balanced and healthful ecology through the promotion of activities designed for
4 environmental protection and conservation.

5 **Sec. 3.** The Porta Vega Beach and the shorelines of Barangays T.R. Yangco, Cadulan
6 and Divisoria, all located in the Municipality of Dimasalang, Province of Masbate are
7 hereby declared an ecotourism site. As such, their development shall be prioritized by the
8 Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the
9 development of ecotourism sites.

10 **Sec. 4.** There is hereby created an ecotourism council, to be known as the Porta Vega
11 Ecotourism Council, hereinafter referred to as the Council, to be composed of the following:

- 1 a) the Mayor of the Municipality of Dimasalang, as Chairperson;
- 2 a) the Chairperson of the Dimasalang Sangguniang Bayan Committee on Tourism;
- 3 b) the Chairperson of the Dimasalang Sangguniang Bayan Committee on Peace and
- 4 Order;
- 5 c) the Chairperson of the Dimasalang Sangguniang Bayan Committee on
- 6 Environment;
- 7 d) the President of the Dimasalang Association of Barangay Captains;
- 8 e) a representative from the Office of the Third Congressional District Representative
- 9 of Masbate;
- 10 f) Five representatives, to be appointed by the local legislative body, from the
- 11 following sectors: owners of resorts along the shorelines of Barangays T.R. Yangco,
- 12 Cadulan and Divisoria; accredited non-government organizations and people's
- 13 organizations engaged in ecotourism; recognized indigenous people's federation;
- 14 reputable travel organizations; and the academe.

15 The representative members shall serve for a term of five (5) years, and their

16 appointment may be renewed for another term.

17 The DOT and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall assist the

18 Council in its task of pursuing the objectives of this Act.

19 **Sec. 5.** The Council shall have the following responsibilities:

- 20 a. Study, adopt, and from time to time update an Ecotourism Master plan and
- 21 supervise the implementation of the corresponding programs and activities
- 22 therein;
- 23 b. Assess and evaluate the potential impact of development to the environmental
- 24 safety and well-being of the site;
- 25 c. Conduct consultations with the local residents of the site to be affected by

1 ecotourism development to assimilate their cultural values and beliefs in the
2 master plan and other programs;

3 *d.* Provide technical and financial assistance to communities in the site;

4 *e.* Formulate rules and regulations which shall prohibit illegal fishing and related
5 activities; and

6 *f.* Perform such other functions as may be necessary to carry out the objectives
7 of this Act.

8 **Sec. 6.** The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the
9 implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General
10 Appropriations Act and from internally-generated funds of the DOT.

11 **Sec. 7.** If any part or provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid,
12 other provisions which are not affected thereby, shall continue to be in full force and effect.

13 **Sec. 8.** All laws, issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby
14 repealed or modified accordingly.

15 **Sec. 9.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*
16 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

17 Approved,