



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 9982

BY REPRESENTATIVES BASCUG, ARAGONES, VIOLAGO, GATO, GO (M.), MATUGAS, FARIÑAS (R.C.),
EBCAS, BAÑAS-NOGRALES, DAGOOC, SAULOG, GUYA, SAVELLANO, ALBANO, BARBA,
DY (F.), FRASCO, LOYOLA, SILVERIO AND ELAGO, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1127

AN ACT
DECLARING THE PINANDAGATAN FALLS LOCATED IN BARANGAY NEW
TUBIGON, MUNICIPALITY OF SIBAGAT, PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL SUR, AN
ECOTOURISM SITE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **SECTION 1.** The Pinandagatan Falls located in Barangay New Tubigon, Municipality
2 of Sibagat, Province of Agusan del Sur, is hereby declared an ecotourism site. As such, its
3 development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and
4 regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

5 **SEC. 2.** Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the DOT shall, in
6 coordination with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and concerned local
7 government units and agencies of the government, prepare a tourism development plan that
8 shall include the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate infrastructure
9 and facilities in the area: *Provided,* That said development plan shall ensure the preservation
10 and conservation of the natural beauty and resources of the area.

11 **SEC. 3.** The DOT and its concerned attached agencies shall take immediate steps to

1 implement the development plan with due consideration to the natural characteristics of the
2 Pinandagatan Falls, and shall incorporate the same in its tourism development program for the
3 calendar year immediately succeeding the approval of this Act. It shall also include the
4 Pinandagatan Falls in all its national, regional and local promotion programs.

5 **SEC. 4.** The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the
6 implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General
7 Appropriations Act, and shall augment such allocation with internally generated funds of the
8 Department.

9 **SEC. 5.** Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOT shall, in
10 consultation with the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority and concerned
11 government agencies and stakeholders, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the
12 proper implementation of this Act.

13 **SEC. 6.** If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the
14 other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

15 **SEC. 7.** All laws, rules, regulations, presidential decrees and other issuances
16 inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended
17 accordingly.

18 **SEC. 8.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*
19 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,