



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 5598

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BY REPRESENTATIVES MERCADO, MADRONA, CHATTO, ANGARA, ALVAREZ (J.), LUISTRO, RILLO, CHAN, AGARAO, ALMARIO, AUMENTADO, MATUGAS, SINGSON (R.), EMANO, GARCIA (M.A.), SALI, HORIBATA, ZAMORA (M.C.), DELOS SANTOS, ABUNDA, LAGON (D.), MANQUIZ, OUANO-DIZON, TUTOR, GO (E.C.), BUHAIN, CAGAS, TUPAS, GO (M.), GORRICETA, DALOG, YU (J.V.), CRUZ (R.), GATO, LIMKAICHONG, ESCUDERO, CARL, YU (D.G.), SALVAME, SACDALAN, KHO (R.), LEGARDA, GULLAS, MIGUEL, ALONTE, PLEYTO, GUTIERREZ, MAGSINO, PADIERNOS, GONZALES (A.), FRASCO, HERRERA, ALBANO, BASCUG, CABREDO, CHUNGALAO, COLLANTES, CUARESMA, KHO (O.), LOYOLA, MARIANO-HERNANDEZ, NAVA, OLIVAREZ, PLAZA, RODRIGUEZ (R.), SILVERIO AND SUANSING (M.A.), PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 83

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AN ACT  
DECLARING THE PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE A TOURISM ZONE

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

- 1           SECTION 1. The Province of Southern Leyte is hereby declared a tourism zone.  
2 Pursuant thereto, its development as a viable host for the visitor economy shall be prioritized and  
3 supported by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing  
4 the development of tourism zones.

1           **SEC. 2.** Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the provincial government of  
2 Southern Leyte shall, in coordination with the DOT, Department of Public Works and Highways,  
3 Department of Environment and Natural Resources and concerned agencies of the government,  
4 prepare a tourism development plan providing for the development, maintenance, improvement  
5 and restoration of tourism sites, where appropriate, in conformity with set standards, including  
6 the construction of hotels, resorts, restaurants, recreational facilities and other appropriate  
7 facilities and infrastructure to enhance tourism in the area: *Provided*, That said development  
8 plan shall ensure the preservation of the ecological balance and natural beauty of the area:  
9 *Provided, further*, That the implementation of the tourism development plan shall be included in  
10 the budget of the provincial government of Southern Leyte.

11           **SEC. 3.** The DOT shall assist the provincial government of Southern Leyte in the  
12 implementation of the tourism development plan by providing technical assistance in tourism  
13 capacity building. It shall also include the Province of Southern Leyte in its national and  
14 regional promotion programs.

15           **SEC. 4.** The funding for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual  
16 budget of the provincial government of Southern Leyte. The DOT may augment such allocation  
17 with internally-generated funds.

18           **SEC. 5.** Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the provincial government  
19 of Southern Leyte shall, in consultation with the DOT and concerned agencies of the  
20 government, promulgate rules and regulations to implement this Act.

21           **SEC. 6.** All laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, proclamations, presidential decrees  
22 and other issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed  
23 repealed or amended accordingly.

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

Approved,