HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 5973

By Representatives Tupas, 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.), Maniquez, Ouano-Dizon, Tutor, Go (E.C.), Buhain, Cagas, Go (M.), Gorriceta, Dalog, Yu (J.V.), Cruz (R.), Gato, Limkaichong, Escudero, Cari, 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, Suansing (M.A.) and Ang, per Committee Report No.159

AN ACT DECLARING THE ISLAS DE GIGANTES LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CARLES, PROVINCE OF ILOILO, AN ECOTOURISM ZONE

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

- SECTION 1. The Islas de Gigantes, consisting of four (4) barangays, namely,
- 2 Asluman, Granada, Lantangan and Gabi, all located in the Municipality of Carles, Province of
- 3 Iloilo, is hereby declared an ecotourism zone, to be known as the "Islas de Gigantes Ecotourism
- 4 Zone." Pursuant thereto, its development shall be prioritized and supported by the Department

- of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism zones.
- 3 SEC. 2. Within six (6) months after the approval of this Act, the municipal government 4 of Carles shall, in coordination with the DOT, Department of Environment and Natural 5 Resources (DENR) and concerned agencies of the government, prepare a tourism development 6 plan that shall include the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate 7 infrastructure and facilities to enhance tourism in the area: Provided, That said development 8 plan shall ensure the preservation of the flora and fauna and perpetuate the historical 9 significance of the identified tourism attractions: Provided, further, That the implementation of 10 the tourism development plan shall be included in the budget of the municipal government of 11 Carles.
 - SEC. 3. The DOT shall assist the municipal government of Carles in the implementation of the tourism development plan by providing technical assistance in tourism capacity building. It shall also include the Islas de Gigantes in its national and regional promotion programs.

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- **SEC. 4.** The funding for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual budget of the municipal of government of Carles. The DOT may augment such allocation with internally-generated funds.
- SEC. 5. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the municipal government of Carles shall, in consultation with the DOT, DENR and concerned agencies of the government, promulgate rules and regulations to implement this Act.
 - SEC. 6. If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.
- SEC. 7. All laws, rules, regulations, presidential decrees, and other issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

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

Approved,