



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 6935

BY REPRESENTATIVE HATAMAN, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 289

AN ACT
DECLARING THE MALAMAWI ISLAND IN THE CITY OF ISABELA,
PROVINCE OF BASILAN, AN ECOTOURISM ZONE

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

1 **SECTION 1.** The Malamawi Island in the City of Isabela, Province of Basilan, is
2 hereby declared an ecotourism zone. Pursuant thereto, its development shall be prioritized and
3 supported by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing
4 the development of ecotourism zones.

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

1 **SEC. 3.** The DOT shall assist the local government of the City of Isabela in the
2 implementation of the tourism development plan by providing technical assistance in tourism
3 capacity building. It shall also include the Malamawi Island in its national and regional
4 promotion programs.

5 **SEC. 4.** The funding for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual
6 budget of the local government of the City of Isabela. The DOT may augment such allocation
7 with internally-generated funds.

8 **SEC. 5.** Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the local government of
9 the City of Isabela shall, in consultation with the DOT and concerned agencies of the
10 government, promulgate rules and regulations to implement this Act.

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

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14 inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended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

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

Approved,