



NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

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SENATE

COMMITTEE REPORT No. 60

Submitted by the Committee on Tourism jointly with the Committees on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change; and Finance on MAR 20 2023.

Re: Senate Bill No. 1615, prepared by the Committee on Tourism, upon the recommendation of its Subcommittee.

Recommending the approval of Senate Bill No. 1615, taking into consideration House Bill No. 5961, with amendments.

Sponsor: Senator Sonny Angara

MR. PRESIDENT:

The Committee on Tourism jointly with the Committees on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change; and Finance to which were referred **Senate Bill No. 1615**, introduced by Senator Sonny Angara, entitled:

**"AN ACT
RECOGNIZING THE MUNICIPALITY OF BALER IN THE PROVINCE
OF AURORA AS THE "BIRTHPLACE OF PHILIPPINE SURFING"**

taking into consideration **House Bill No. 5961**, introduced by Representatives Angara, Madrona, Chatto, Alvarez (J.), Luistro, et al., entitled:

**"AN ACT
RECOGNIZING THE MUNICIPALITY OF BALER IN THE PROVINCE
OF AURORA AS THE "BIRTHPLACE OF PHILIPPINE SURFING"
AND DECLARING IT AN ECOTOURISM DESTINATION"**

have considered the same and have the honor to report it back to the Senate with the recommendation that Senate Bill No. 1615, taking into consideration House Bill No. 5961, be approved, with the following amendments:

1. On page 1, insert a new Section 3, to read as:

"SEC. 3. REPEALING CLAUSE. – ALL OTHER LAWS, ACTS, PRESIDENTIAL DECREES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATIONS, ISSUANCES, RULES AND REGULATIONS, OR PARTS THEREOF WHICH ARE CONTRARY TO OR INCONSISTENT WITH ANY OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT ARE HEREBY REPEALED, AMENDED, OR MODIFIED ACCORDINGLY."

2. To renumber the sections accordingly.

Respectfully Submitted:

CHAIRPERSONS:



SONNY ANGARA

*Subcommittee on Senate Bill Nos. 238,
1166, 1615, and Proposed Senate
Resolution No. 472
Committee on Finance;
Member, Committee on Tourism*

MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY

*Committee on Tourism
Vice Chairperson, Committee on Finance
Member, Committee on Environment,
Natural Resources
and Climate Change*

CYNTHIA A. VILLAR

*Committee on Environment, Natural
Resources and Climate Change
Vice Chairperson, Committee on Finance
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VICE CHAIRPERSONS:

IMEE R. MARCOS

*Senior Vice Chairperson, Committee on
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Member, Committees on Tourism; and
Environment, Natural Resources and
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PIA S. CAYETANO

*Senior Vice Chairperson, Committee on
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Committee on Environment, Natural
Resources and Climate Change*

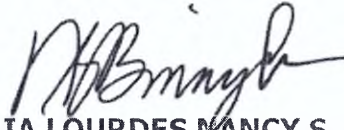
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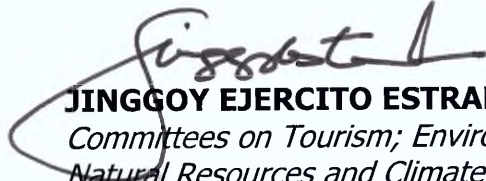
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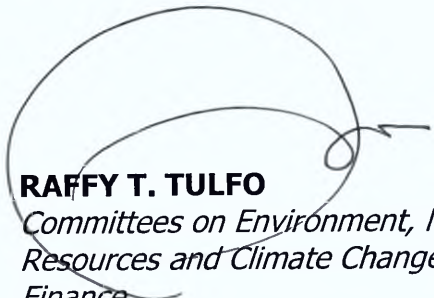


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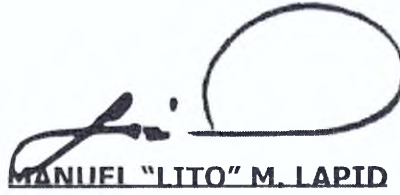
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Committee on Finance

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President Pro Tempore

Senior Vice Chairperson, Committee on Finance

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Majority Leader

AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III

Minority Leader

HON. JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

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Senate President

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
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First Regular Session

SENATE
Office of the Secretary

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SENATE
S. B. No. 1615

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Introduced by Senator SONNY ANGARA

AN ACT
RECOGNIZING THE MUNICIPALITY OF BALER IN THE PROVINCE OF
AURORA AS THE "BIRTHPLACE OF PHILIPPINE SURFING"

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

1 **SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy.** – The State recognizes the role of tourism
2 as a driver of economic growth and development and shall, therefore, pursue policies
3 that cultivate, strengthen, and promote the heritage of our tourism destinations.
4 Towards this end, it shall endeavour to underscore and feature the historical
5 significance and origins of our world-renowned tourism destinations.

6 **SEC. 2. Municipality of Baler in the province of Aurora as the Birthplace of**
7 *Philippine Surfing* – In recognition of its status as one of the premiere surfing sites in
8 the country and for earning a significant spot in the history and origin of Philippine
9 surfing, it is hereby declared that the Municipality of Baler in the province of Aurora
10 be the Birthplace of Philippine Surfing.

11 **SEC. 3. Effectivity Clause.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
12 complete publication in the Official Gazette or in any two (2) newspapers of general
13 circulation.

Approved,



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 5961

BY REPRESENTATIVES ANGARA, MADRONA, CHATTO, 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, 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, MARLANO-HERNANDEZ, NAVA, OLIVAREZ, PLAZA, RODRIGUEZ (R.), SILVERIO AND SUANSING (M.A.), PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 149

AN ACT

RECOGNIZING THE MUNICIPALITY OF BALER IN THE PROVINCE OF AURORA AS THE "BIRTHPLACE OF PHILIPPINE SURFING" AND DECLARING IT AN ECOTOURISM DESTINATION

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

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The Municipality of Baler in the Province of Aurora is hereby declared an
2 ecotourism destination and shall be recognized as the "Birthplace of Philippine Surfing." Pursuant

1 thereto, its development shall be prioritized and supported by the Department of Tourism (DOT),
2 subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism destinations.

3 **SEC. 2.** Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the municipal government of
4 Baler shall, in coordination with the DOT, Department of Environment and Natural Resources
5 (DENR) and concerned agencies of the government, prepare a tourism development plan that shall
6 include the construction, installation and maintenance of such facilities and infrastructure as may
7 be necessary and appropriate to promote the beaches and surfing activities in the area: *Provided,*
8 That said development plan shall guarantee the accessibility and security of tourists thereat and
9 ensure the preservation, conservation and optimum utilization of available assets and resources of
10 the area: *Provided, further,* That the implementation of the tourism development plan shall be
11 included in the budget of the municipal government of Baler.

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

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

18 **SEC. 5.** Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the municipal government
19 of Baler shall, in consultation with the DOT, DENR and concerned agencies of the government,
20 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 repealed
23 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 national newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,