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REPUBLIC OF	THE	PHILIP	PIN	ES
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23 MAY -9 A10:34

SENATE

S. No. 2153

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

AN ACT

DECLARING THE IMMEDIATE ENVIRONS OF OUR LADY OF THE MOST HOLY ROSARY PARISH CHURCH LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ROSARIO, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, A TOURISM DESTINATION

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary, Queen of the Caracol, popularly known as Mahal na Birhen ng Santo Rosaryo, Reyna ng Karakol or Nuestra Señora Virgen del Santissimo Rosario, Reina de Caracol, is the patron saint of the Municipality of Rosario, formerly known as Salinas, Cavite. However, there remains no exact data or record as to when she became the patroness of Rosario.

One of the rich traditions of Rosario is the famous "Caracol" which is a more than a century old celebration honoring the Virgen del Rosario. The fluvial procession is called caracol, a Spanish word for snail, because of its slow movement.

This measure seeks to establish the immediate environs of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish Church located in the Municipality of Rosario, Province of Cavite, as tourism destination and pilgrimage site.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this measure is earnestly sought.

RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

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

Section 1. The immediate environs of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish Church located in the Municipality of Rosario, Province of Cavite, are hereby declared a tourism destination. 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 tourism destinations.

Sec. 2. Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the municipal government of Rosario shall, in coordination with the DOT, Department of Public Works and Highways, National Historical Commission of the Philippines and concerned agencies of the government, prepare a tourism development plan that shall include the construction, installation, and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and infrastructure to improve the overall features of the immediate environs surrounding Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish Church, thereby enduring its accessibility and security of the tourists: *Provided*, That said development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the historical significance of the area: *Provided*, *further*, That the implementation of the tourism development plan shall be included in the budget of the municipal government of Rosario.

- Sec. 3. The DOT shall assist the municipal government of Rosario in the implementation of the tourism development plan by providing technical assistance in tourism capacity building. It shall also include the immediate environs of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish Church in its national and regional promotion programs.
- Sec. 4. The funding for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual budget of the municipal government of Rosario. 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 Rosario, in consultation with the DOT and concerned agencies of the government, promulgate the rules and regulations to implement this Act.
- Sec. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,