

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



23 MAY -9 A10 :35

SENATE

S. No. 2154

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

**AN ACT
DECLARING THE IMMEDIATE ENVIRONS OF SAINT MARY MAGDALENE
PARISH CHURCH LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF KAWIT, PROVINCE
OF CAVITE, A TOURISM DESTINATION**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Saint Mary Magdalene Church, parish church of the Municipality of Kawit, Cavite, is one of the oldest churches in the country. Its origin dates back to the early 17th century.

The president of the First Philippine Republic, Emilio Aguinaldo, was baptized in 1869 in the church and his birth certificate is kept in the altar. The church was declared a Historical Structure of the Philippines and a marker was placed by the National Historical Commission of the Philippines in 1990.

This measure seeks to establish the immediate environs of Saint Mary Magdalene Parish Church located in the Municipality of Kawit, 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:*

1 Section 1. The immediate environs of the Saint Mary Magdalene Parish Church
2 located in the Municipality of Kawit, Province of Cavite, are hereby declared a tourism
3 destination. Pursuant thereto, its development shall be prioritized and supported by
4 the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing the
5 development of tourism destinations.

6 Sec. 2. Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the municipal
7 government of Kawit shall, in coordination with the DOT, Department of Public Works
8 and Highways, National Historical Commission of the Philippines and concerned
9 agencies of the government, prepare a tourism development plan that shall include
10 the construction, installation, and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and
11 infrastructure to improve the overall features of the immediate environs surrounding
12 the Saint Mary Magdalene Parish Church, thereby enduring its accessibility and
13 security of the tourists: *Provided*, That said development plan shall ensure the
14 preservation and conservation of the historical significance of the area: *Provided*,
15 *further*, That the implementation of the tourism development plan shall be included in
16 the budget of the municipal government of Kawit.

1 Sec. 3. The DOT shall assist the municipal government of Kawit in the
2 implementation of the tourism development plan by providing technical assistance in
3 tourism capacity building. It shall also include the immediate environs of the Saint
4 Mary Magdalene Parish Church in its national and regional promotion programs.

5 Sec. 4. The funding for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the
6 annual budget of the municipal government of Kawit. The DOT may augment such
7 allocation with internally generated funds.

8 Sec. 5. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the municipal
9 government of Kawit, in consultation with the DOT and concerned agencies of the
10 government, promulgate the rules and regulations to implement this Act.

11 Sec. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
12 *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,