



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 7646

BY REPRESENTATIVE ROQUE, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 452

AN ACT
DECLARING SAGUMATA FALLS, LOCATED IN BARANGAY LOURDES, CITY
OF VALENCIA, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON, AN ECOTOURISM DESTINATION

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

1 **SECTION 1.** The Sagumata Falls located in Barangay Lourdes, City of Valencia,
2 Province of Bukidnon, is hereby declared an ecotourism destination. Pursuant thereto, its
3 development shall be prioritized and supported by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject
4 to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism destinations.

5 **SEC. 2.** Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the local government of the
6 City of Valencia shall, in coordination with the DOT, Department of Environment and
7 Natural Resources 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 Valencia.

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

5 **SEC. 4.** The funding for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the
6 annual budget of the local government of the City of Valencia. 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 local government
9 of the City of Valencia shall, in consultation with the DOT and concerned agencies of the
10 government, promulgate rules and regulations to implement this Act.

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

Approved,