CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES SIXTEENTH CONGRESS Second Regular Session

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 2698

BY REPRESENTATIVE DEL ROSARIO (A.G.)

AN ACT DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF TALAINGOD, DAVAO DEL NORTE AS AN ECO-CULTURAL TOURISM ZONE, ESTABLISHING FOR THE PURPOSE THE TALAINGOD CULTURAL HERITAGE VILLAGE, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. The Municipality of Talaingod, Davao del Norte is hereby declared as an eco-cultural tourism zone, establishing for the purpose the Talaingod Cultural Heritage Village. As such, it shall be accorded priority development by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of tourist zones.

SEC. 2. The DOT, in coordination with the local government units concerned, the Representative of the First Congressional District of Davao del Norte and other concerned agencies of the government shall, within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, prepare a development plan involving the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and infrastructure which shall enhance tourism in the area: *Provided*, That the said development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the natural beauty and indigenous nature of the area. Consideration must also be given to

- the formulation, development and implementation of programs and strategies that will generate livelihood and employment opportunities for the local inhabitants of the area.
 - SEC. 3. The DOT shall take immediate steps in implementing the tourism development plan that will suit the natural characteristics of the area and shall incorporate the same in its overall development plans and programs for national implementation.
- SEC. 4. It shall also be the responsibility of the DOT to promote Talaingod and the cultural heritage village that will be constructed and established as tourism areas in all its national, regional and local promotion programs.
- SEC. 5. The DOT shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.
- SEC. 6. The DOT shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be charged against the internally generated funds of the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA) and/or the appropriations in the annual General Appropriations Act.
- SEC. 7. All laws, rules, regulations, proclamations, executive orders or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby modified or amended accordingly.
- SEC. 8. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
 in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,