

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



16 JUL 19 AIO :43

SENATE
S. B. No. 443

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by SENATOR LOREN LEGARDA

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

Explanatory Note

With an estimated population of 26,000 people, the municipality of Talaingod in the province of Davao del Norte serves as the home of the Ata Manobos, who safeguard one of the last remaining tropical rainforests in the country along the Pantaron Range. Aside from being stewards of the environment, the Ata Manobos lead in the preservation of their cultural heritage through their craftsmanship, which includes the creation of liyang baskets made from the wild bamboo grass called *bagtok* and beaded necklaces, anklets and bracelets with the unique Ata Manobo pattern.

In recognition of the unique position of Talaingod as an environmental and cultural center, this measure seeks to declare Talaingod as an eco-cultural tourism zone and to establish a cultural heritage village to conserve and promote the rich and distinctive customs and traditions of indigenous peoples living there. With the adoption of an eco-cultural tourism zone, the highly diverse and rich culture of the indigenous peoples in Talaingod such as those of the Ata Manobo will be protected and preserved.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is sought.


LOREN LEGARDA
Senator

16 JUL 19 10:43

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

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The Municipality of Talaingod in Davao del Norte is hereby declared as an
2 eco- cultural tourism zone, establishing for the purpose the Talaingod Cultural Heritage
3 Village. As such it shall be accorded priority development by the Department of
4 Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the
5 development of tourist zones.
6
- 7 **SEC. 2.** The Department of Tourism, in coordination with the local government units
8 concerned, the Representative of the First Congressional District of Davao del Norte
9 and other concerned agencies of the government shall, within one (1) year after the
10 approval of this Act, prepare a development plan involving the construction,
11 installation and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and infrastructure which
12 shall enhance tourism in the area; Provided that the said development plan shall ensure
13 the preservation and conservation of the of the natural beauty and indigenous nature
14 of the area. Consideration must also be given to the formulation, development and
15 implementation of programs and strategies that will generate livelihood and
16 employment opportunities for the local inhabitants of the area.
17
- 18 **SEC. 3.** The Department of Tourism shall take immediate steps in implementing the
19 tourism development plan that will suit the natural characteristics of the area and shall
20 incorporate the same in its overall development plans and programs for national
21 implementation.
22
- 23 **SEC. 4.** It shall also be the responsibility of the Department of Tourism to promote
24 Talaingod and the cultural heritage village that will be constructed and established as
25 tourism areas in all its national, regional and local promotion programs.
26
- 27 **SEC. 5.** The Department of Tourism shall promulgate the necessary rules and
28 regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.
29
- 30 **SEC. 6.** The Department of Tourism shall include in the Department's program the
31 implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be charged against the internally

1 generated funds of the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA)
2 and/or the appropriations in the annual General Appropriations Act.

3

4 **SEC. 7.** All laws, rules, regulations, proclamations, executive orders or parts thereof
5 inconsistent with this Act are hereby modified or amended accordingly.

6

7 **SEC. 8.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

8

9 Approved,