



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**H. No. 7293**

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BY REPRESENTATIVES BERNOS, NOGRALES (K.A.) AND DE VERA, PER  
COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 635

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AN ACT DECLARING THE KAPARKAN FALLS IN BARANGAY  
CAGANAYAN, MUNICIPALITY OF TINEG, PROVINCE OF  
ABRA AN ECOTOURISM SITE, ESTABLISHING THE  
KAPARKAN FALLS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1           SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the  
2 “Kaparkan Falls Ecotourism Act”.

3           SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – Section 16, Article II of the  
4 Constitution enunciates that the State shall protect and advance  
5 the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord  
6 with the rhythm and harmony of nature.

7           It shall be the policy of the State to promote an  
8 ecologically-sustainable and culturally-sensitive tourism industry as  
9 a tool for socioeconomic development in the country, where its  
10 participants receive equitable benefits in accordance to the  
11 development of the sector.

1           SEC. 3. *Kaparkan Falls Ecotourism Site.* – The Kaparkan  
2 Falls in Barangay Caganayan in the Municipality of Tineg, Province  
3 of Abra is hereby declared an ecotourism site, whose geographical  
4 limits shall be subject to the determination of the local government  
5 unit. Its development shall be prioritized by the Department of  
6 Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations  
7 governing the development of ecotourism sites.

8           SEC. 4. *Kaparkan Falls Development Council.* – A  
9 multi-sectoral council to be known as the “Kaparkan Falls  
10 Development Council” shall be created, whose term of office of  
11 members shall be coterminous with the incumbent Mayor. It shall  
12 be composed of the following:

13           (a) A representative from the Office of the Mayor of the  
14 Municipality of Tineg, as Chairperson;

15           (b) The head of the Tineg Municipal Tourism Office;

16           (c) The head of the Tineg Municipal Environment and  
17 Natural Resources Office;

18           (d) A representative from the DOT;

19           (e) A representative from the Department of Environment  
20 and Natural Resources (DENR);

21           (f) Two (2) representatives from the indigenous peoples sector  
22 in the Municipality of Tineg; and

23           (g) Two (2) representatives from the private sector.

24           SEC. 5. *Functions and Responsibilities of the Council.* – The  
25 Council shall have the following functions:

1 (a) Formulate and implement the Kaparkan Falls  
2 Development Plan, in consultation with the local residents,  
3 businesses, and other stakeholders;

4 (b) Assess and evaluate the potential impact of the  
5 development to the environmental safety and well-being of the site,  
6 communities, and enterprises;

7 (c) Provide technical and financial assistance to the  
8 communities within the site;

9 (d) Formulate rules and regulations in relation to the  
10 maintenance and security of the ecotourism site; and

11 (e) Perform other functions as may be necessary to carry out  
12 the objectives of this Act.

13 SEC. 6. *Annual Reports.* - Within sixty (60) days after the  
14 end of the fiscal year, the implementing agency shall submit a  
15 report to both Houses of Congress with respect to the operation of  
16 the ecotourism site. The report shall provide information on the  
17 total amount expended during the fiscal year to carry out and  
18 achieve the purpose of this Act, including amounts expended to  
19 publicize the availability of rewards.

20 SEC. 7. *Appropriations.* - The Secretaries of the DOT and  
21 the DENR shall include in their respective Department's program  
22 the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be  
23 included in the annual General Appropriations Act and from  
24 internally generated funds of the DOT.

25 SEC. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - Within  
26 ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOT, in  
27 coordination with the Municipality of Tineg, the DENR, and the

1 Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority, shall  
2 promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper  
3 implementation of this Act.

4 The DOT shall be the agency which shall take care of  
5 planning, implementing, coordinating, and monitoring the  
6 provisions of this Act.

7 SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is  
8 declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not  
9 affected by such declaration shall remain in full force and effect.

10 SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, decree, ordinance or  
11 administrative circular not consistent with any provision of this Act  
12 is hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

13 SEC. 11. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)  
14 days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in any newspaper  
15 of general circulation.

Approved,

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