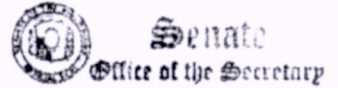


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



'19 SEP 10 P4:31

SENATE

S. No. 1026

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by **SENATOR CYNTHIA A. VILLAR**

AN ACT

**DECLARING PILIS FALLS IN BARANGAY PALILI, MUNICIPALITY OF
SAMAL, PROVINCE OF BATAAN AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare Pilis Falls as an eco-tourism site in the Municipality of Samal, Province of Bataan.

Pilis Falls is located in Barangay Palili, Samal, Bataan. Its water pours down a high slanting cliff north-east of Mt. Nagpali. The falls has an approximate height of 120 feet. The unique natural formation of landslides and the thorough water drops make Pilis Falls an exceptional waterfall. The vegetation of the immediate surroundings is relatively intact forest characterized by multi-strata dipterocarp species.

Pilis Falls could easily become an international tourist haven. It offers various attractions such as beautiful mountains, a wide variety of flora and fauna wherein mountaineers and tourists can enjoy several common eco-tourism related activities such as trekking, nature viewing, bird watching, swimming, picnic, nature photography and camping.

Thus, the developments of the Pilis Falls into an eco-tourism site will not only enhance its aesthetic value but will also bring economic benefits for the people of Bataan and the whole country as well.

This bill is the Senate counterpart of House Bill No. 141 filed by Rep. Geraldine B. Roman of the First District of Bataan at the House of Representatives this 18th Congress.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly recommended.


CYNTHIA A. VILLAR



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AN ACT

DECLARING PILIS FALLS IN BARANGAY PALILI, MUNICIPALITY OF SAMAL, PROVINCE OF BATAAN AN ECOTOURISM SITE 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 "Pilis Falls Ecotourism
2 Act."

3 Sec. 2. It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote a tourism
4 industry that is ecologically sustainable, responsible, participative, culturally
5 sensitive, economically viable and equitably beneficial to local communities.

6 Sec. 3. The Pilis Falls in Barangay Palili, Municipality of Samal, Province of
7 Bataan is hereby declared an ecotourism site. Its development shall be prioritized by
8 the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations
9 governing the development of ecotourism sites.

10 The DOT shall prepare and incorporate the development plan for Pilis Falls in
11 the overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic Act No.
12 9593, otherwise known as "The Tourism Act of 2009". The Plan shall be

1 implemented jointly with the Municipality of Samal, the local Protected Area
2 Management Board (PAMB), the Bataan National Park (BNP) and the Tourism
3 Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA).

4 The DOT, in coordination with the Municipality of Samal, the PAMB, the BNP,
5 the TIEZA and other concerned agencies of the government, shall identify well
6 defined geographic areas within Pilis Falls ecotourism site and coordinate the
7 integrated development of these areas for the optimum utilization of natural assets
8 and attractions, as well as existing infrastructure and facilities; Provided, That the
9 development shall ensure the preservation of the scenery and the historic
10 significance of the identified tourist attractions.

11 Sec. 4. Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of
12 the DOT, in consultation with the Municipality of Samal, the PAMB, the BNP, the
13 TIEZA and other tourism stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules and
14 regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

15 Sec. 5. The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program
16 the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the Annual
17 General Appropriations Act and internally generated funds of the DOT.

18 Sec. 6. All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, rules and regulations
19 and other issuance contrary to our inconsistent with this Act shall be deemed
20 repealed or modified accordingly.

21 Sec. 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
22 Official Gazette or in a national newspaper of general circulation.

23 Approved,