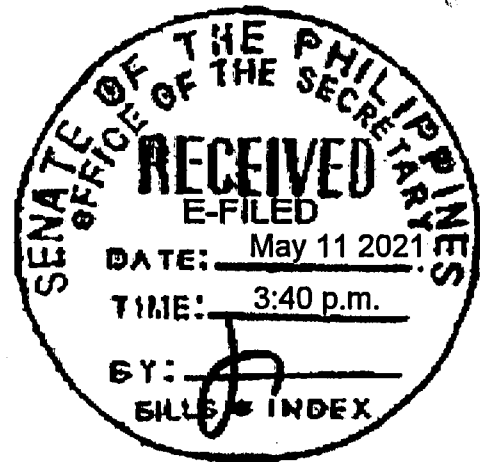


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

SENATE
S. B. No. 2168



Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

**AN ACT DECLARING FUYOT SPRINGS NATIONAL PARK IN BARANGAY
STA. VICTORIA, CITY OF ILAGAN, PROVINCE OF ISABELA AN ECO-
TOURISM SITE, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 16 of the Constitution provides that *"the State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature."*

Fuyot Springs National Park was established as a national park for the benefit and enjoyment of the people by Presidential Proclamation No. 327, s. 1938, issued by President Manuel L. Quezon. Fuyot Springs National Park is a protected area of the Philippines located in the mountain slopes of Barangay Santa Victoria in Ilagan City, Isabela, 405 kilometers northeast from Manila. The park, which also contains the Ilagan Sanctuary, is 819 hectares in area and extends to the nearby municipality of Tumauni. Hikers, mountaineers, spelunkers, and birdwatchers flock to the park to explore its mountain trails, caves, unusual rock formations, and aviary.

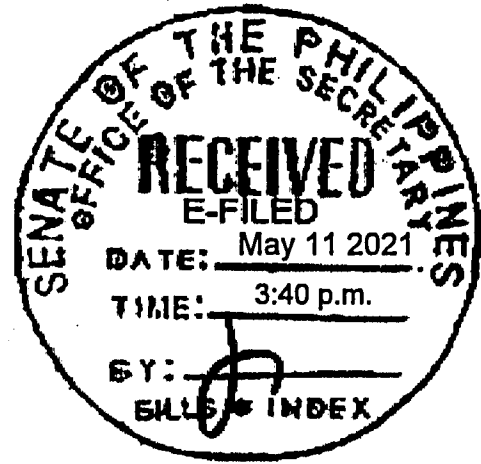
This bill therefor seeks to declare Fuyot Springs National Park in Barangay Sta. Victoria, City of Ilagan, Province of Isabela as ecotourism site. The designation of Fuyot Springs National Park as an ecotourism destination will aid in the growth and promotion of tourism in the region. It would also ensure that biological diversity is protected and preserved. Moreover, its growth as an ecotourism destination would support the local economy by providing employment opportunities.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this measure earnestly sought.


IMEE R. MARCOS

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

1 SECTION 1. The Fuyot Springs National Park in Barangay Sta. Victoria, City of
2 Ilagan, Province of Isabela is hereby declared an ecotourism site. Its development
3 shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the
4 rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

5 SEC. 2. The Department of Tourism, in accordance with the local government
6 units and other concerned agencies of the government shall, within one (1) year after
7 the approval of this Act, prepare a development plan involving the construction,
8 installation, and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and infrastructure as shall
9 enhance tourism in the area: *Provided*, That said development plan shall ensure the
10 preservation and conservation of the natural resources of the area.

11 SEC. 3. The Department of Tourism shall take immediate steps in implementing
12 the tourism development plan that will suit the natural characteristics of Fuyot Springs
13 Natural Park and shall incorporate the same in its overall development plans and
14 programs for national implementation.

15 SEC. 4. It shall also be the responsibility of the DOT to promote Fuyot Springs
16 Natural Park as an ecotourism site in all its national, regional, and local promotions
17 programs.

18 SEC. 5. The DOT shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for
19 proper implementation of this Act.

1 SEC. 6. The Secretary of the Department of Tourism shall include in the
2 Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be
3 included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law
4 and thereafter.

5 SEC. 7. If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, other
6 provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

7 SEC. 8. All laws, rules, regulations, proclamations, executive orders or parts
8 thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby modified or amended accordingly.

9 SEC. 9. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication
10 in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

11
Approved,