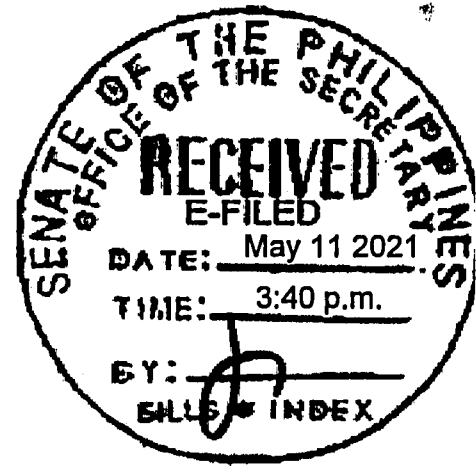


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



SENATE
S. B. No. 2173

Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

AN ACT DECLARING THE TINAKAYANAN FALLS LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LABRADOR, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN, AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 16 of the Philippine Constitution states 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."*

The Tinakayanan Falls, located in the Municipality of Labrador, Pangasinan Province, is one of the most beautiful attractions in the province. Since the falls have not been tainted by human intervention, the water is like purified drinking water. With its thunderous roaring sound of water flowing and its cool waters welcoming, the falls create a magnificent scene. However, there is no road that leads to the falls, so one must take a trail to get there. As a result, the trail can only be used for hiking or biking. Hence, a road should be constructed for an easy access of tourists coming from different places to the natural water falls.

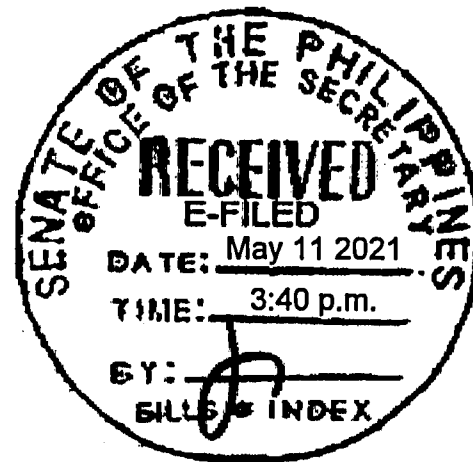
This bill therefor seeks to declare the Tinakayanan Falls in the Municipality of Labrador, Province of Pangasinan as an ecotourism zone. The proposal to develop the Tinakayanan Falls into an ecotourism zone will definitely generate economic growth by providing employment opportunities through tourism activities among the residents of the Municipality of Labrador.

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 Tinakayanan Falls in the Municipality of Labrador, Province of
2 Pangasinan is hereby declared as an ecotourism zone. As such, its development shall
3 be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and
4 regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

5 SEC. 2. Within six (6) months after the approval of this Act, the DOT, in
6 coordination with the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority and other
7 concerned agencies of the government, shall prepare a tourism development plan
8 containing, among others, the construction, installation and maintenance of such
9 appropriate facilities and infrastructure that shall encourage tourism in the area:
10 *Provided*, That the development plan shall ensure the preservation of the natural
11 beauty and resources of the area.

12 SEC. 3. The DOT shall take immediate steps to implement the tourism
13 development plan and incorporate the same in its tourism development program for
14 the ensuing calendar year.

15 SEC. 4. 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 from internally generated funds of the DOT.

18 SEC. 5. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of
19 the DOT shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for its proper
20 implementation.

1 SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
2 Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,