



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 786

BY REPRESENTATIVE ABAYON

AN ACT DECLARING THE ISLAND-TOWNS OF BIRI, CAPUL, SAN ANTONIO AND SAN VICENTE, ALL IN THE PROVINCE OF NORTHERN SAMAR AS ECO-TOURISM ZONES

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

1 SECTION 1. The Island-towns of Biri, Capul, San Antonio and San
2 Vicente, all in the Province of Northern Samar, are hereby declared as eco-
3 tourism zones. As such, these shall be accorded priority development by the
4 Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations
5 governing the development of tourism zones.

6 SEC. 2. The DOT, in coordination with the Philippine Tourism
7 Authority and other concerned agencies of the government, shall, within one
8 year from the approval of this Act, prepare a development plan involving the
9 construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and

1 infrastructure as shall enhance tourism in the area: *Provided*, That said
2 development plan shall ensure the preservation of the natural resources and
3 historical significance of the area: *Provided, further*, That the lands embraced
4 therein shall be exempt from the coverage of the Comprehensive Agrarian
5 Reform Program, as shall be determined by the concerned sanggunian.

6 SEC. 3. The DOT shall take immediate steps to implement said
7 development plan and shall incorporate the same in its overall development
8 program for the ensuing calendar year.

9 SEC. 4. The DOT shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations
10 for the proper implementation of this Act.

11 SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
12 in two newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,