Republic of the Philippines

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 601

Submitted by the Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Appropriations on
Re : House Bill No. 8015
Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 1127
Sponsors : Representatives Sol Aragones, Eric Go Yap and Raul C. Tupas

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Appropriations, to which was referred House Bill No. 1127, introduced by Rep. Raul C. Tupas, entitled:

AN ACT
DECLARING THE SICOGON ISLAND IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CARLES, PROVINCE OF ILOILO AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

have considered the same and recommend that the attached House Bill No. 8015, entitled:

AN ACT
DECLARING THE SICOGON ISLAND LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CARLES, PROVINCE OF ILOILO AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

be approved in substitution of House Bill No. 1127 with Representative Raul C. Tupas, as author thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

REP. ERIC GO YAP
Chairperson
Committee on Appropriations

REP. SOL ARAGONES
Chairperson
Committee on Tourism

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
QUEZON CITY
Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8015

Introduced by Representative Raul C. Tupas

AN ACT
DECLARING THE SICOGON ISLAND LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CARLES, PROVINCE OF ILOILO, AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the “Sicogon Island Ecotourism Zone Act.”

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

SEC. 3. The Sicogon Island, consisting of three (3) barangays, namely, Alipata, Buaya, and San Fernando, all located in the Municipality of Carles, Province of Iloilo, is hereby declared an ecotourism zone, to be known as the “Sicogon Island Ecotourism Zone.” As such, its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism zones.

Within six (6) months from the approval of this Act, the DOT, in coordination with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA) and the municipal government of Carles, shall
prepare and jointly implement the development plan for Sicogon Island and shall incorporate the same in the National Tourism Development Plan.

The DOT, in coordination with the DENR, the TIEZA, the municipal government of Carles, and other concerned agencies of government, shall delineate well-defined geographic areas within the Sicogon Island Ecotourism Zone and coordinate the integrated development of the area for the optimum use of natural assets and attractions. The development shall ensure the preservation of the flora and fauna and perpetuate the historic significance of the identified tourist attractions.

SEC. 4. The Secretaries of the DOT and the DENR shall include in their respective Department’s program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act, and shall augment such allocation with internally generated funds of the DOT.

SEC. 5. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DOT, in consultation with the DENR, the TIEZA and the municipal government of Carles, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 6. All laws, rules, regulations, presidential decrees and other issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

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

Approved,