COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 661

Submitted by the Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Appropriations on Re: House Bill No. 8208
Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 2639
Sponsors: Representatives Sol Aragones, Eric Go Yap and Juan Fidel Felipe F. Nogales

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Appropriations to which was referred House Bill No. 2639, introduced by Representative Juan Fidel Felipe F. Nogales, entitled:

AN ACT
DECLARING MASUNGI GEORESERVE IN THE PROVINCE OF RIZAL AS A TOURIST DESTINATION

have considered the same and recommend that the attached House Bill No. 8208, entitled:

AN ACT
DECLARING MASUNGI GEORESERVE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BARAS, PROVINCE OF RIZAL, AN ECOTOURISM DESTINATION, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

be approved in substitution of House Bill No. 2639 with Representatives Juan Fidel Felipe F. Nogales, Sol Aragones, Alfel M. Bascug, Juliette T. Uy, Micaela S. Violago, Ciriacio B. Gato, Jr., Fernando T. Cabredo, Arnold “Noli” D. Celeste, and Irene Gay F. Saulog as authors 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  

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
Second Regular Session  

HOUSE BILL NO. 8208  
(In Substitution of House Bill No. 2639)  


AN ACT  
DECLARING MASUNGI GEORESERVE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BARAS, PROVINCE OF RIZAL, AN ECOTOURISM DESTINATION, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR  

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

SECTION 1. The Masungi Georeserve in the Municipality of Baras, Province of Rizal, is hereby declared an ecotourism destination. As such, its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism destinations.  

SEC. 2. Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the DOT, in consultation with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Department of Public Works and Highways, Department of the Interior and Local Government, other concerned government agencies, local government units (LGUs) and civil society organizations, shall prepare an ecotourism development plan including the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and infrastructure that shall enhance, develop and promote ecotourism in the area, and improve accessibility and ensure the security of tourists: Provided, That said
development plan shall ensure the preservation, conservation and optimum utilization of available assets and resources in the area.

SEC. 3. The DOT, in coordination with all concerned government agencies and LGUs, shall take immediate steps to implement the development plan and incorporate the same in its tourism development program for the ensuing calendar year. It shall also include the Masungi Georeserve in all its national, regional and local promotions programs.

SEC. 5. The Secretaries of the DOT and 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. 6. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOT shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

SEC. 7. All laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, proclamations, presidential decrees and other issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 8 If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected thereby.

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

Approved,