COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 764

Submitted by the Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Appropriations on ________
Re : House Bill No. 8773
Recommend its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 2292
Sponsors : Representatives Sol Aragones, Eric Go Yap and Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Appropriations, to which was referred House Bill No. 2292, introduced by Rep. Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo, entitled:

AN ACT
DECLARING THE MAN-MADE LAKE AND ITS PREMISES LOCATED IN BALO-I, LANAO DEL NORTE PROVINCE AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

AN ACT
DECLARING THE BALO-I MAN-MADE LAKE AND ITS IMMEDIATE ENVIRONS LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BALO-I, PROVINCE OF LANAO DEL NORTE, AN ECOTOURISM ZONE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

be approved in substitution of House Bill No. 2292 with Representative Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo 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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8773
(In substitution of House Bill No. 2292)

Introduced by Representative Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo

AN ACT
DECLARING THE BALO-I MAN-MADE LAKE AND ITS IMMEDIATE ENVIRONS LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BALO-I, PROVINCE OF LANAO DEL NORTE, AN ECOTOURISM ZONE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote a sustainable ecotourism industry to attract local and foreign tourists while making them aware of the urgent need to conserve our natural resources.

Sec. 2. The Balo-i Man-Made Lake and its immediate environs located in the Municipality of Balo-i, Province of Lanao del Norte, is declared an 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.

Sec. 3. Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA), in coordination with the DOT and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), shall prepare an ecotourism development plan containing the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and infrastructure that shall improve the features of the ecotourism zone thereby ensuring its accessibility and the security of tourists. The development plan shall be submitted to the Province of Lanao del Norte Tourism Council for approval.
Sec. 4. 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. 5. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOT, in consultation with the DENR, TIEZA and the local government unit of Balo-i, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

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

Approved,