Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Tourism, to which was referred House Bill No. 3868, introduced by Rep. Arnulf Bryan “Arnie” B. Fuente bella, entitled:

AN ACT
DECLARING THE QUINALASAG GROUP OF ISLANDS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF GARCHITORENA, AND THE LAMIT GROUP OF ISLANDS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LAGOÑOY, ALL IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR AS ECOTOURISM ZONES

has considered the same and recommends that the attached House Bill No. ________, entitled:

AN ACT
DECLARING THE QUINALASAG GROUP OF ISLANDS AND THE LAMIT GROUP OF ISLANDS, ALL LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF GARCHITORENA, PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR, AS ECOTOURISM ZONES, TO BE COLLECTIVELY KNOWN AS THE SISIRAN ECOTOURISM ZONE

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

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. 8968
(In substitution of House Bill No. 3868)


AN ACT
DECLARING THE QUINALASAG GROUP OF ISLANDS AND THE LAMIT GROUP OF ISLANDS, ALL LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF GARCHITORENA, PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR, AS ECOTOURISM ZONES, TO BE COLLECTIVELY KNOWN AS THE SISIRAN ECOTOURISM ZONE

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

1. SECTION 1. The Quinalasag Group of Islands, consisting of Quinalasag main island and Baticorao Islands, and the Lamit Group of Islands, consisting of Binagasbasan, Sumaoy, Bani, Sibanban, Piglocaban, Pighaluban and Monteverde Islands, all located in the Municipality of Garchitorena, Province of Camarines Sur, are hereby declared as ecotourism zones, to be collectively known as the Sisiran Ecotourism Zone.

2. Sec. 2. The geodetic coordinates in the World Geodetic System 1984 of the areas to be declared as the Sisiran Ecotourism Zone are as follows:

1. Quinalasag Group of Islands, consisting of Quinalasag main island and Baticorao Islands:
   a) 14°00.0’N, 123°35.0’E
b) 14°00.0'N, 123°41.0'E

c) 13°54.5'N, 123°41.0'E

d) 14°5.2'N, 123°35.0'E

2. Lamit Group of Islands, consisting of Binagasbasan, Sumaoy, Bani, Sibanban, Piglocaban Pighaluban and Monteverde Islands:

a) 14°00.0'N, 123°30.0'E

b) 14°00.0'N, 123°35.0'E

c) 13°56.0'N, 123°35.5'E

d) 13°56.0'N, 123°30.0'E

Sec. 3. The Department of Tourism (DOT), in coordination with the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Authority (TIEZA), Partido Development Administration (PDA), Partido State University (PSU) and other concerned agencies of the government, shall consolidate all tourism development plans for the area and prepare a comprehensive ecotourism development plan for the Sisiran Ecotourism Zone, consistent with the national tourism master plan. The development plan shall include the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and infrastructure that shall enhance ecotourism in the area: Provided, That said development plan shall ensure the preservation of the cultural heritage of the area and the conservation of its biophysical assets, and incorporate strategies and programs to promote sustainable economic opportunities for the local communities.

Sec. 4. The DOT shall incorporate the ecotourism development plan in the National Tourism Development Plan, pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as the "Tourism Act of 2009", and shall take immediate steps to implement the development plan for the ensuing calendar year. It shall also include the Sisiran Ecotourism Zone in all its national, regional and local promotion program.
The DOT and its concerned attached agencies shall also provide the necessary
technical and financial assistance for the development of tourism infrastructure and the
conduct of skills development in concerned local government units (LGUs) and their
respective local communities.

**Sec. 5.** Upon the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Public Works and
Highways (DPWH), in coordination with the PDA and the District Office of the
Representative of the Fourth District of the Province of Camarines Sur, shall implement and
fast-track the construction and improvement of roads, bridges and other infrastructure
necessary in the development of the Sisiran Ecotourism Zone and shall prioritize the same in
the DPWH’s infrastructure program.

The DOT, DPWH, and the Department of Transportation shall promote the
progressive development of civil aviation, land and sea transportation infrastructures in the
Sisiran Ecotourism Zone to improve accessibility and connectivity of the ecotourism zones.

**Sec. 6.** The DOT, PDA, PSU and concerned LGUs shall ensure the involvement of
the private sector, non-government organizations and other interest groups in encouraging
investment and developing a culture of tourism in the area.

**Sec. 7.** Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOT shall, in
consultation with PDA, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper
implementation of this Act.

**Sec. 8.** All laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, presidential decrees and other
issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or
amended accordingly.

**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,