Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 868

Submitted by the Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Appropriations on MAR 1 6 2021
Re : House Bill No. 9001
Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 2098
Sponsors : Representatives Sol Aragones, Eric Go Yap and Jumel Anthony I. Espino

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Appropriations, to which was referred House Bill No. 2098, introduced by Rep. Jumel Anthony I. Espino, entitled:

AN ACT
DECLARING “KWEBA NG HAPON” LOCATED IN BARANGAY MANLOCBOC IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF AGUILAR, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN AS AN ECO-TOURISM DESTINATION AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

AN ACT
DECLARING “KWEBA NG HAPON” LOCATED IN BARANGAY MANLOCBOC, MUNICIPALITY OF AGUILAR, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN, AN ECOTOURISM DESTINATION AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

be approved in substitution of House Bill No. 2098 with Representative Jumel Anthony I. Espino, 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
AN ACT
DECLARING “KWEBA NG HAPON” LOCATED IN BARANGAY MANLOCBOC, MUNICIPALITY OF AGUILAR, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN, 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. “Kweba ng Hapon” located in Barangay Manlocboc, Municipality of Aguilar, Province of Pangasinan, 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 six (6) months after the approval of this Act, the DOT, in coordination with the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA) and other concerned agencies of government, shall prepare an ecotourism development plan containing, among others, the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and infrastructure that shall enhance tourism in the area: Provided, That said development plan shall ensure the preservation of the natural beauty and historical significance of the area.
SEC. 3. The DOT, in coordination with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the municipal government of Aguilar, shall take immediate steps to implement the ecotourism development plan for “Kweba ng Hapon,” and shall incorporate the same in the National Tourism Development Plan.

SEC. 4. The Secretaries of the DOT, DPWH, and DENR shall include in the 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 shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper 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 and amended accordingly.

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,