COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 969

Submitted by the Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Appropriations on May 18, 2021
Re : House Bill No. 9355

Recommend its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 5937
Sponsors : Representatives Sol Aragones, Eric Go Yap and Roger G. Mercado

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Appropriations, to which was referred House Bill No. 5937, introduced by Representative Roger G. Mercado, entitled:

AN ACT
DECLARING CAGNITUAN FALLS LOCATED IN BARANGAY CAGNITUAN, CITY OF MAASIN, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE, AN ECOTOURISM SITE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

be approved in substitution of House Bill No. 5937 with Representative Roger G. Mercado as author thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

REP. ERIC GO YAP
Chairperson
Committee on Appropriations

REP. SOL ARAGONES
Chairperson
Committee on Tourism
Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9355
(In substitution of House Bill No. 5937)

Introduced by Representative Roger G. Mercado

AN ACT
DECLARING CAGNITUAN FALLS LOCATED IN BARANGAY CAGNITUAN, CITY OF MAASIN, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE, AN ECOTOURISM SITE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. The Cagnituan Falls located in Barangay Cagnituan, City of Maasin, Province of Southern Leyte, is hereby declared an ecotourism site. As such, its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and other concerned agencies, subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

SEC. 2. Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the DOT shall, in coordination with the city government of Maasin and other concerned agencies of the government, prepare a tourism development plan that shall include the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and infrastructure to enhance tourism in the area: Provided, That said development plan shall ensure the preservation of the natural beauty and resources of the area.

SEC. 3. The DOT and its concerned attached agencies shall take immediate steps to implement the development plan and incorporate the same in its tourism development program for the calendar year immediately succeeding the approval of this Act.
SEC. 4. The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the 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 Department.

SEC. 5. 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. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper in general circulation.

Approved,