Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Appropriations, to which was referred House Bill No. 6233, introduced by Reps. Ria Christina G. Fariñas and Rudys Caesar G. Fariñas I, entitled:

AN ACT
DECLARING THE MARUAYA FARM TOURISM AND AGRO-INDUSTRIAL SITE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PIDDIG, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE AS A TOURIST DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

have considered the same and recommend that the attached House Bill No. 9479, entitled:

AN ACT
DECLARING THE MARUAYA FARM TOURISM AND AGRO-INDUSTRIAL SITE LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PIDDIG, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE, A FARM TOURISM DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 9479
(In substitution of House Bill No. 6233)

AN ACT
DECLARING THE MARUAYA FARM TOURISM AND AGRO-INDUSTRIAL SITE LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PIDDIG, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE, A FARM TOURISM DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. The Maruaya Farm Tourism and Agro-Industrial Site located in the Municipality of Piddig, Province of Ilocos Norte, is hereby declared a farm tourism destination. As such, its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of farm tourism destinations pursuant to Republic Act No. 10816, otherwise known as the “Farm Tourism Development Act of 2016”.

Sec. 2. Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the DOT, in coordination with the concerned local government units (LGUs) and agencies of the government, shall prepare a tourism development plan that shall include the construction, installation, and maintenance of appropriate infrastructure and facilities that shall enhance farm tourism in the area: Provided, That
said development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the natural beauty and resources of the area: Provided, further, That any activities and developments in the area must conform with the concept of farm tourism as provided in the “Farm Tourism Development Act of 2016”.

**Sec. 3.** The DOT and its concerned attached agencies shall take immediate steps to implement the development plan that will suit the natural characteristics of the Maruaya Farm Tourism and Agro-Industrial Site, and shall incorporate the same in its tourism development program for the ensuing calendar year. It shall also include the Maruaya Farm Tourism and Agro-Industrial Site in all its national, regional and local promotion programs.

**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 after the effectivity of this Act, the DOT shall, in consultation with the municipal government of Piddig, 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. 7.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,