

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session



COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1085

Submitted by the Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Appropriations on July 13, 2021
Re : House Bill No. 9827
Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 6075
Sponsors : Reps. Sol Aragonés, Eric Go Yap and Sharee Ann T. Tan

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Appropriations, to which was referred House Bill No. 6075, introduced by Rep. Sharee Ann T. Tan, entitled:

**AN ACT
DECLARING SOHOTON CAVES AND NATURAL BRIDGE IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF BASEY, PROVINCE OF SAMAR AN ECOTOURISM
SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

have considered the same and recommend that the attached House Bill No. 9827, entitled:

**AN ACT
DECLARING SOHOTON CAVES AND NATURAL BRIDGE LOCATED IN
THE MUNICIPALITY OF BASEY, PROVINCE OF SAMAR, AN
ECOTOURISM SITE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

be approved in substitution of House Bill No. 6075 with Rep. Sharee Ann T. Tan 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, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9827
(In substitution of House Bill No. 6075)

Introduced by Representative Sharee Ann T. Tan

AN ACT
DECLARING SOHOTON CAVES AND NATURAL BRIDGE LOCATED IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF BASEY, PROVINCE OF SAMAR, AN ECOTOURISM SITE,
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **SECTION 1.** The Sohoton Caves and Natural Bridge located in the Municipality
2 of Basey, Province of Samar, is hereby declared an ecotourism site. As such, its
3 development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules
4 and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

5 **Sec. 2.** The DOT, in coordination with concerned local government units (LGUs)
6 and government agencies, shall prepare a tourism development plan that shall include the
7 construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and infrastructure
8 that shall enhance ecotourism in the area: *Provided*, That the development plan shall ensure
9 the preservation of the natural beauty and resources in the area.

1 **Sec. 3.** The DOT shall take immediate steps to implement the development plan
2 and shall incorporate the same in its tourism development program for the ensuing calendar
3 year.

4 **Sec. 4.** The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the
5 implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General
6 Appropriations Act, and shall augment such allocation with internally generated funds of the
7 Department.

8 **Sec. 5.** Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOT, in
9 consultation with the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority and concerned
10 LGUs and government agencies, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for
11 the proper implementation of this Act.

12 **Sec. 6.** All laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, presidential decrees, and
13 other issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed
14 repealed or amended accordingly.

15 **Sec. 7.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
16 *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

17 Approved,