

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 7917

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BY REPRESENTATIVES PLAZA, ARAGONES, BASCUG, UY (J.), VIOLAGO, GATO, CABREDO, CELESTE AND SAULOG, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 568

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**AN ACT DECLARING THE PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL SUR AS THE HOME OF THE GOLDEN TARA**

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

1           **SECTION 1.** It is the policy of the State to preserve and promote historical and  
2 cultural artifacts.

3           The Province of Agusan del Sur is hereby declared as the Home of the Golden Tara, a  
4 21-karat gold statuette of a female Hindu deity that dates back to the 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> centuries and  
5 was found in 1917 on the banks of the Wawa River in the Municipality of Esperanza,  
6 Province of Agusan del Sur. Presently on display in the Field Museum of Natural History in  
7 Chicago, United States of America, it is considered a testament to the rich cultural heritage of  
8 Agusan del Sur and to its fine crafting tradition that already existed during pre-colonial times.

9           **Sec. 2.** The Department of Tourism (DOT) shall feature the Golden Tara and the rich  
10 cultural heritage of Agusan del Sur in the Department's overall tourism promotion program.

11           **Sec. 3.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*  
12 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

13           Approved,