

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 8206

BY REPRESENTATIVES ABUEG-ZALDIVAR, ARAGONES, BASCUG, UY (J.), VIOLAGO, GATO, CABREDO,
CELESTE, SAULOG AND ALONTE, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 659

AN ACT
DECLARING THE SANGARAN ARK CAVE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF
QUEZON, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN, AN ECOTOURISM 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:

1 **SECTION 1.** The Sangaran Ark Cave in the Municipality of Quezon, Province of
2 Palawan, is hereby declared an ecotourism destination. As such, its development shall be
3 prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations
4 governing the development of ecotourism destinations.

5 **SEC. 2.** Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the DOT, in coordination
6 with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and other concerned
7 government agencies and local government units, shall prepare a tourism development plan,
8 including the construction, installation and maintenance of facilities and infrastructures that
9 shall encourage ecotourism in the area: *Provided*, That said development plan shall ensure
10 the preservation, conservation and optimum utilization of available assets and resources in
11 the area.

1 **SEC. 3.** The DOT shall take immediate steps to implement the development plan that
2 shall suit the natural characteristic of Sangaran Ark Cave and incorporate the same in its
3 tourism development program for the ensuing calendar year. It shall also include Sangaran
4 Ark Cave in all its national, regional and local promotions programs.

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

9 **SEC. 5.** Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the
10 DOT in coordination with the DENR and other government agencies shall promulgate the
11 necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

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14 deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

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

Approved,