

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 253

Submitted by the Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Appropriations on MAR 03 2020
Re : House Bill No. 6442
Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 918
Sponsors : Reps. Sol Aragones, Isidro T. Ungab and Aurelio "Dong" D. Gonzales, Jr.

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Appropriations, to which was referred House Bill No. 918, introduced by Rep. Aurelio "Dong" D. Gonzales, Jr., entitled:


AN ACT DECLARING MOUNT ARAYAT, BORDERING THE MUNICIPALITIES OF ARAYAT AND MAGALANG, PROVINCE OF PAMPANGA AS A TOURIST DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR


have considered the same and recommend that the attached House Bill No. 6442, entitled:

AN ACT DECLARING MOUNT ARAYAT, BORDERING THE MUNICIPALITIES OF ARAYAT AND MAGALANG, PROVINCE OF PAMPANGA A TOURIST DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

be approved in substitution of House Bill No. 918 with Rep. Aurelio "Dong" D. Gonzales, Jr. as author thereof.

Respectfully submitted,


REP. ISIDRO T. UNGAB
Chairperson
Committee on Appropriations


REP. SOL ARAGONES
Chairperson
Committee on Tourism

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
QUEZON CITY

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House Bill No. 6442

Introduced by Rep. AURELIO "DONG" D. GONZALES, JR.

**AN ACT DECLARING MOUNT ARAYAT, BORDERING THE MUNICIPALITIES OF
ARAYAT AND MAGALANG, PROVINCE OF PAMPANGA A TOURIST
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.** Mount Arayat, located along the borders of the Municipalities of Arayat
2 and Magalang, Province of Pampanga is hereby declared a tourist destination. As such, its
3 development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and
4 regulations governing the development of tourist destinations.

5 **SEC. 2.** Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the DOT, in coordination with
6 the Department of Public Works and Highways, the provincial government of Pampanga, and the
7 municipal governments of Arayat and Magalang, shall prepare a tourism development plan
8 involving the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and
9 infrastructure that shall promote ecotourism in the area and ensure its accessibility and the
10 security of tourists: *Provided*, That said development plan shall preserve and conserve the natural
11 beauty and resources of the area.

12 **SEC. 3.** The DOT, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and
13 other concerned agencies shall take immediate steps to implement the tourism development plan

1 that will cater to the natural characteristics of Mt. Arayat and shall incorporate the same in its
2 overall development plans and programs for national implementation.

3 **SEC. 4.** The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the
4 implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General
5 Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.

6 **SEC. 5.** Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Tourism Infrastructure
7 and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA), the Provincial Governor of Pampanga, and the
8 Municipal Mayors of Arayat and Magalang, shall promulgate the necessary implementing rules
9 and regulations (IRR) for the proper and effective enforcement, administration and
10 implementation of this Act. For this purpose, they shall have the power and authority to create a
11 Secretariat and Technical Working Group (TWG) to assist them in the drafting of the IRR:
12 *Provided*, That the provincial government of Pampanga shall defray the necessary expenses of
13 the Secretariat and the Technical Working Group (TWG) for the performance of its official
14 functions and activities.

15 **SEC. 6.** If for any reason, any section or provision of this Act is declared to be
16 unconstitutional or invalid, other sections or provisions thereof which are not affected thereby,
17 shall continue in full force and effect.

18 **SEC. 7.** All laws, decrees, executive orders and proclamations, or parts thereof,
19 inconsistent with this Act, are deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

20 **SEC. 8.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official
21 Gazette or in a newspaper of national circulation.

22
23 *Approved.*