Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 6576



Introduced by Representatives Ria Christina G. Fariñas and Rudys Caesar G. Fariñas I

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare the Kapurpurawan Rock Formation in the Municipality of Burgos, Ilocos Norte, as a tourist destination.

Nature creates masterpieces in its own beautiful way. The Rock Formations from limestone is one of the most visited tourist destinations in Ilocos Norte, popularly known as the Kapurpurawan Rock Formation due to its creamy white appearance and stunning formations sculpted by the natural forces brought by its surroundings.

Kapurpurawan came from the Ilocano term "puraw" which means white because of its ivory appearance. It is also considered as one of the province's jewels and source of pride.

The rock formation is approximately 3 kilometers away from the city of drop off point. In order to get to the site, one has to trek his way along the ragged trail to see the rock up close. However, ever since people started vandalizing the area, the local government unit had no choice but to seal off the area to preserve it, but tourists can still admire the rock formation from a distance.

In view of the foregoing, this bill aims to declare the Kapurpurawan Rock Formation as a tourist destination, mandating the Department of Tourism and its attached agencies, in coordination with the Department of Public Works and Highways, and in consultation with the Municipality of Burgos, to come up with a development plan for the beach and its surroundings.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this proposed measure is earnestly sought for.

RIA CHRISTINA G. FARIÑAS

RUDYS CAESAR G. FARIÑAS

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AN ACT

DECLARING THE KAPURPURAWAN ROCK FORMATION IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BURGOS, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE, AS 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:

Section 1. The Kapurpurawan Rock Formation in the Municipality of Burgos, Province of Ilocos Norte is hereby declared a tourist destination. As such, its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of tourist destinations.

Sec. 2. Within one (1) year from the approval of this Act, the DOT shall, in coordination with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), and other concerned agencies of the government, prepare a tourism development plan involving the construction, installation, and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and infrastructures that enhance tourism in the area: *Provided*, That the development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the natural beauty and resources of the area: *Provided*, *further*, That any activities and developments to be carried out in the area must conform

with the concept of ecotourism as provided in the national ecotourism strategy jointly issued by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the DOT.

- **Sec. 3.** The DOT and its attached agencies shall take immediate steps to implement the tourism development plan tailored to the needs of the Kapurpurawan Rock Formation in the Municipality of Burgos and shall incorporate the same in its tourism program for the ensuing calendar year. It shall also include the Kapurpurawan Rock Formation in all its national, regional, and local promotion programs.
- **Sec. 4.** The Secretary of Tourism shall include in the DOT's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.
- **Sec. 5**. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Tourism shall, in consultation with the Municipality of Burgos, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.
- **Sec. 6.** All laws, rules, regulations, proclamations, executive orders, or parts thereof, inconsistent with this Act are hereby 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,