

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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6001



Introduced by Representative **SHAREE ANN T. TAN**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

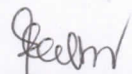
This bill seeks to declare Lulugayan Falls and Ecovillage as an ecotourism site in the Municipality of Calbiga, Province of Samar.

The Lulugayan Falls in the Municipality of Calbiga, Province of Samar is one of the most sought tourist destinations in the Province of Samar because of its beautiful waterfall cascades and refreshing water. Lulugayan Falls is even often dubbed as the mini-Niagara Falls and is considered as Samar's most popular waterfall.

Lulugayan Falls is located fourteen (14) kilometers from the center of the town of Calbiga. It is one of the widest waterfalls in the Philippines with a span of about fifty (50) meters in width. Lulugayan Falls' highest drop is about thirty (30) meters. The breathtakingly beautiful waterfall cascades and the thorough water drops make Lulugayan Falls an exceptional waterfall.

The declaration of Lulugayan Falls as an ecotourism site will not only result to the development and improvement of the tourist site but will likewise help in the furtherance of socio-economic development in the local communities as well as in the whole country.

As embodied in the 1987 Philippine Constitution, the State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature. In light of all this, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought,


SHAREE ANN T. TAN
Second District, Samar

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HOUSE BILL NO. _____

Introduced by Representative **SHAREE ANN T. TAN**

AN ACT
DECLARING LULUGAYAN FALLS AND ECOVILLAGE IN THE MUNICIPALITY
OF CALBIGA, 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:

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as “Lulugayan Falls and Ecovillage Ecotourism Act.”

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy – The 1987 Philippine Constitution mandates that the State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.

Accordingly, it is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote an ecologically-sustainable and effective tourist industry that will enhance environmental preservation and support socio-economic development.

SECTION 3. The Lulugayan Falls Ecotourism Site. The Lulugayan Falls in the Municipality of Calbiga, Province of Samar is hereby declared as an ecotourism site. Its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism sites.

The DOT, in coordination with the concerned local government units as well as with the other concerned government agencies, shall prepare a tourism development plan for Lulugayan Falls which shall be incorporated in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as “The Tourism Act of 2009”, and which shall also include the construction and maintenance of infrastructure and facilities in the area; Provided, That the development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the scenery and resources of the area.

SECTION 4. Implementing Rules and Regulations. Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DOT, in consultation with the concerned local government units, the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA) and other agencies, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

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

SECTION 6. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, rules, regulations, proclamations, executive orders or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

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

Approved,