

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2641

Introduced by Representative Fidel Nograles

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The state is very cognizant of its policy to promote a tourism industry that is sustainable, cultural, ecological, accountable, economically feasible, ethically and socially equitable to all its inhabiting populace.

In pursuant to *Republic Act 9593 (Tourism Act of 2009)*, it is certain that these marvelous gifts of nature shall realize such improvement and be an added source of income for its local government and all its residents.

Regina Rica in the Municipality of Tanay, Province of Rizal hosts a scenic complex featuring an elevated path often visited as a place of prayer, pilgrimage and finding peace. Regina Rica is a very tranquil place to spend time with friends, relatives and loved ones.

Developing and enhancing the beauty of this ecological sanctuary and wellness environment will surely generate investment and foreign exchange in the area, while providing employment opportunities for the local government and residents within the area.

This House Bill seeks to declare ***Regina Rica*** in the Municipality of Tanay, Province of Rizal as a *tourist destination*.

Thus, the early passage of this bill is earnestly requested.


JUAN FIDEL NOGRALES

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AN ACT

DECLARING **REGINA RICA** IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TANAY,
PROVINCE OF RIZAL AS A TOURIST DESTINATION,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. DECLARATION OF POLICY – The **Regina Rica** is hereby declared a *tourist destination*.

It shall be conferred a priority development by the *Department of Tourism (DOT)*, and shall be the subject to the rules and regulations governing the existing development programs of a worthy tourist destination. The DOT shall prioritize the establishment of a tourist center to be known as the *Regina Rica Tourist Center*.

SECTION 2. The DOT, in accordance with the Department of Public Works and Highways, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Department

of the Internal and Local Government, and other concerned government agencies and institutions of the state, together with the Local Government Units (LGUs) and civil society organizations, shall within one **(1)** year from the approval of this act, shall formulate a comprehensive development plan involving the construction, installation and maintenance of such applicable facilities and infrastructure that shall enhance, develop and promote the tourism sector in the area, and improve accessibility and ensure the security of tourists. *Provided, that* the development plan shall therefor ensure the preservation and conservation of the natural beauty, historical significance and resources of the area.

SECTION 3. The DOT, in coordination with all other agencies and institutions concerned, shall therefor make immediate actions in implementing the development plan that will fit the natural features of ***Regina Rica***, and shall integrate the same in its overall development programs.

SECTION 4. It shall also be a declared responsibility of the DOT to foster *Regina Rica* as a tourist destination in all its local, regional and national promotion plans and programs.

SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION – The Secretary of Tourism shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, and the amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act (**GAA**) and from internally generated funds of the DOT of the year following its enactment into a law and thereafter.

SECTION 6. TRANSITORY PROVISION – Existing agencies, industries, businesses and offices affected by the implementation of this Act shall be given six **(6)** months transitory period from the effectivity of the IRR or such other period as may be determined, to comply with the requirements of this Act.

SECTION 7. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. – The DOT shall be charged with carrying out the provisions of this Act shall, within sixty

(60) days after the effectivity of this Act, formulate the necessary rules and regulations for its effective implementation.

SECTION 8. REPEALING CLAUSE. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. – If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 10. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation whichever comes earlier.

Approved,