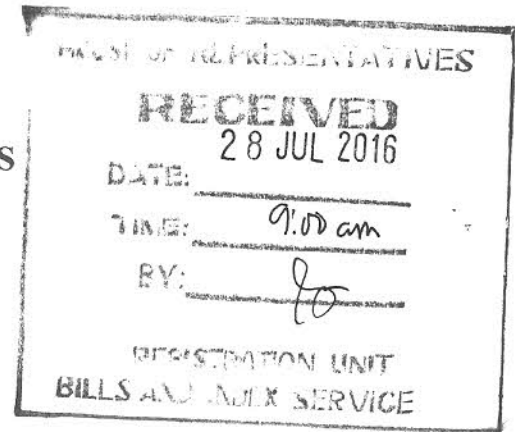


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Seventeenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2111



Introduced by **Hon. Frederick F. Abueg**

EXPLANATORY NOTE


This bill was filed in the Sixteenth Congress as House Bill No. 4998 and was substituted by House Bill No. 6229. It has been approved for three readings at the House of Representatives and was transmitted to the Senate of the Philippines on January 6, 2016. It was subsequently received by the upper House on same date per House Committee Report No. 00925.

The proposed bill seeks to declare Mainit Falls and Hot Springs located in Barangay Mainit, Municipality of Brooke's Point, Palawan as tourist destination. Mainit Falls and Hot Springs is located ten (10) kilometers away from the town proper. It will take approximately thirty (30) minutes by car.

Water from Mainit Falls drops at a height of fifty (50) meters into a natural pool. It serves as a source of drinking water to the residents living near the area. It also irrigates neighboring rice fields. On the other hand, Mainit Hotsprings, which is located a few meters from the waterfalls, is known for its medicinal property. Its sulfuric waters became known not only to local residents but also to foreign visitors. The *Trogonoptera Trojana*, a species of butterflies that is endemic to Palawan, is also abundant in the area.

While the tourism potential of the area is being encouraged by the local government, it is undeniable that national help, through the Department of Tourism, will further improve tourism in the locality.

In view of the policy of the State to promote tourism industry as an indispensable element to national economy and as declared in Republic Act 9593, otherwise known as "The Tourism Act of 2009," the approval of this bill is earnestly recommended.


FREDERICK F. ABUEG
Representative, 2nd District of Palawan

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

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HOUSE BILL NO. 2111

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AN ACT
DECLARING MAINIT FALLS AND HOT SPRINGS IN THE MUNICIPALITY
OF BROOKE'S POINT, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN AS 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.** The Mainit Falls and Hot Springs located in Barangay
2 Mainit, Brooke's Point, Palawan is hereby declared tourist destination. As such,
3 it shall be accorded with priority development by the Department of Tourism
4 (DOT) and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the
5 development of tourist destination.

6 **SEC. 2.** The Department of Tourism, in coordination with the local
7 government units and other concerned agencies of the government shall, within
8 one (1) year after the approval of this Act, prepare a development plan involving
9 the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and
10 infrastructure to enhance tourism in the area; *Provided, That* said development

1 plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of the natural resources of
2 the area.

3 **SEC. 3.** The Department of Tourism shall take immediate steps in
4 implementing the tourism development plan that will suit the natural
5 characteristic of Mainit Falls and Hot Springs and shall incorporate the same in
6 its overall development plans and programs for national implementation.

7 **SEC. 4.** It shall also be the responsibility of the DOT to promote Mainit
8 Falls and Hot Springs as tourism area in all its national, regional and local
9 promotion programs.

10 **SEC. 5.** The Secretary of Tourism shall issue such rules and regulations
11 as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this Act.

12 **SEC. 6.** The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act
13 shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its
14 enactment into law and thereafter.

15 **SEC. 7.** All laws, rules, regulations, proclamations, executive orders or
16 parts thereof inconsistent with this Act, are hereby amended accordingly.

17 **SEC. 8.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in
18 the Official Gazette or in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,