

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Eighteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4842



Introduced by Hon. Deogracias Victor "DV" B. Savellano

AN ACT
DECLARING PEKKANG FALLS IN SINAIT; BECQUES FALLS AND ARISUDUSOD FALLS IN CABUGAO; PIKKANG FALLS AND TURTURAYOK FALLS IN SAN JUAN; PIMMADER FALLS, PIMMILOV FALLS AND ALVIN FALLS IN STO. DOMINGO; AND BURAYOK FALLS, NAGBALDI FALLS, MASUNGAD FALLS, PUNDO FALLS IN BANTAY; PROVINCE OF ILOCOS SUR AS ECOTOURISM SITES AND APROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Pekkang Falls in Sinait; Becques Falls and Arisudusod Falls in Cabugao; Pikkang Falls and Turturayok Falls in San Juan; Pimmader Falls, Pimilov Falls and Alvin Falls in Sto. Domingo; and Burayok Falls, Nagbaldi Falls, Masungad Falls, Pundo Falls in Bantay; all in the Province of Ilocos Sur as Ecotourism Sites.

These falls have the potential to become an international haven. They have various attractions such as beautiful mountains, a wide variety of flora and fauna wherein nature lovers and tourists can enjoy several common eco-tourism related activities such as hiking, bird watching, swimming, holding picnics, nature appreciating, photography and camping.

Thus the development of these falls into eco-tourism sites will not only enhance its aesthetic value but will also bring economic benefits for the people of Ilocos Sur.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of bill is earnestly sought.

HON. DEOGRACIAS VICTOR "DV" B. SAVELLANO



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4842
HOUSE BILL NO. _____

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AN ACT

DECLARING PEKKANG FALLS IN SINAIT; BECQUES FALLS AND ARISUDUSOD FALLS IN CABUGAO; PIKKANG FALLS AND TURTURAYOK FALLS IN SAN JUAN; PIMMADER FALLS, PIMMILOV FALLS AND ALVIN FALLS IN STO. DOMINGO; AND BURAYOK FALLS , NAGBALDI FALLS, MASUNGAD FALLS, PUNDO FALLS IN BANTAY; PROVINCE OF ILOCOS SUR AS ECO-TOURISM SITES AND APROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

SECTION 1. It is the policy of the State to promote a tourism industry that is ecologically sustainable, responsive, participative, culturally sensitive, economically viable, and equitably beneficial to local communities.

SECTION 2. The Pekkang Falls in Sinait; Becques Falls and Arisudusod Falls in Cabugao; Pikkang Falls and Turturayok Falls in San Juan; Pimmader Falls, Pimmilov Falls and Alvin Falls in Sto. Domingo; and Burayok Falls, Nagbaldi Falls, Masungad Falls, Pundo Falls in Bantay; Province of Ilocos Sur shall be declared as ecotourism sites. 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 shall prepare and incorporate the development plan for these aforementioned falls in the overall National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as “The Tourism Act of 2009.” The plan shall be implemented jointly with the Province of Ilocos Sur, the local Protected Area Management Board (PAMB), the Ilocos Sur National Park (ISNP) and the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA).

The DOT, in coordination with the Province of Ilocos Sur, the PAMB, the ISNP, the TIEZA, and other concerned agencies of the government, shall identify well defined geographic areas within the above declared falls as ecotourism sites and coordinate the integrated development of these areas for the optimum utilization of natural assets and attractions, as well as existing infrastructures and facilities; *Provided*, That the development shall ensure the preservation of the scenery and the historic significance of the identified tourist attractions.

SECTION 3. Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DOT, in consultation with the Province of Ilocos Sur, the PAMB, the ISNP, the TIEZA and other tourism stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

SECTION 4. 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 5. All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, rules and regulations and other issuances contrary to or inconsistent with this Act shall be deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from the date of publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,