



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 4127

---

---

BY REPRESENTATIVE PADILLA

---

---

AN ACT DECLARING THE CAPISAAN CAVE SYSTEM IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF KASIBU, PROVINCE OF NUEVA VIZCAYA AS AN ECOTOURISM 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 Capisaan Cave System is hereby declared an  
2 ecotourism destination. As such, it shall be accorded priority development by  
3 the Department of Tourism (DOT) and other concerned agencies, and shall be  
4 subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism  
5 destinations.

6           SEC. 2. The DOT, in coordination with the local government units  
7 (LGUs) and other concerned agencies of the government shall, within one (1)  
8 year after the approval of this Act, prepare a development plan involving the  
9 construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and  
10 infrastructure as shall enhance tourism in the area taking into consideration the  
11 Capisaan Cave System's classification by the Department of Environment and  
12 Natural Resources (DENR), as provided in Republic Act No. 9072, or the  
13 "National Caves and Cave Resources Management and Protection Act":  
14 *Provided*, That said development plan shall ensure the preservation and  
15 conservation of the natural resources of the area.

1           SEC. 3. The DOT shall take immediate steps in implementing the  
2 tourism development plan that will suit the natural characteristics of the  
3 Capisaan Cave System and shall incorporate the same in its overall  
4 development plans and programs for national implementation.

5           SEC. 4. An ecotourism governing body, to be known as the Capisaan  
6 Cave System Steering Committee, is hereby created. The Board shall be  
7 composed of the Governor of Nueva Vizcaya as Chairperson, the DENR  
8 Regional Executive Director for Region II as Co-Chairperson, the DOT  
9 Regional Director for Region II as Vice Chairperson, the mayor of the  
10 Municipality of Kasibu, the barangay captain of Capisaan, a representative  
11 from the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) and a  
12 representative from a local based nongovernmental organization (NGO).

13           In accordance with all existing laws, the Steering Committee shall  
14 promulgate policies, rules and regulations as may be necessary to implement  
15 the provisions of this Act. It shall likewise determine a scheme of income and  
16 benefit sharing among all parties concerned.

17           SEC. 5. It shall also be the responsibility of the DOT to promote the  
18 Capisaan Cave System as an ecotourism destination in all its national, regional  
19 and local promotion programs.

20           SEC. 6. The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's  
21 program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included  
22 in the annual General Appropriations Act and/or internally generated funds of  
23 the Department.

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

Approved,