



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 5748

BY REPRESENTATIVES GONZALEZ AND NOGRALES (K.A.), PER COMMITTEE
REPORT NO. 264

AN ACT DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF JOVELLAR IN THE
PROVINCE OF ALBAY AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 SECTION 1. The Municipality of Jovellar in the Province of Albay,
2 famous for its Sigpit/Quitinday Falls and underground river and caves, is
3 hereby declared an ecotourism zone. As such, its development shall be
4 prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT), and shall be subject to the
5 rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism zones.

6 SEC. 2. The DOT, in coordination with the local government units
7 concerned, the Representative of the Third Congressional District of the
8 Province of Albay and other concerned agencies of the government shall,
9 within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, prepare a tourism
10 development plan involving the construction, installation and maintenance of
11 such appropriate facilities and infrastructure as shall encourage tourism in the
12 area: *Provided*, That the said development plan shall ensure the preservation

1 and conservation of the natural beauty and the indigenous *flora* and *fauna*
2 therein: *Provided, further,* That the development plan shall include the
3 formulation, development and implementation of programs and strategies that
4 will generate livelihood and employment opportunities for the residents in the
5 area.

6 SEC. 3. The DOT shall take immediate steps to implement the
7 development plan and incorporate the same in its tourism development
8 program for the ensuing calendar year. It shall also include the Municipality
9 of Jovellar in all its national, regional and local promotion programs.

10 SEC. 4. The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's
11 program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be
12 included in the annual General Appropriations Act and internally generated
13 funds of the DOT.

14 SEC. 5. All laws, rules, regulations, proclamations, executive orders or
15 parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby modified or amended
16 accordingly.

17 SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
18 in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

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