



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 7779

BY REPRESENTATIVES DIMAPORO (M.K.), DIMAPORO (A.),
VILLANUEVA AND NOGRALES (K.A.), PER COMMITTEE REPORT
No. 761

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ARBORETUM IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF TAGOLOAN, LANAOS DEL NORTE, TO
BE KNOWN AS THE MIGHTY CAVE PARK ARBORETUM
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 SECTION 1. There is hereby established an arboretum with
2 an area of around two hundred (200) hectares which includes the
3 Mighty Cave Park in the Municipality of Tagoloan, Lanao del Norte,
4 to be known as the "Mighty Cave Park Arboretum" hereinafter
5 referred to as the Arboretum.

6 As used in this Act, Arboretum refers to a reserved area which
7 is essentially for a well-grown and representative collection of trees
8 or shrubs species planted and maintained for the purpose of
9 reference, scientific studies and as a convenient source of seeds and
10 herbarium materials.

11 SEC. 2. The Arboretum shall serve the following purposes:

1 (a) To aid in the study and teaching of dendrology, phenology,
2 botany, biology, and other related fields of study by being utilized as
3 an outdoor laboratory by both faculty and students of nearby
4 schools;

5 (b) To serve as a sanctuary for the preservation and
6 conservation of genetic resources of trees and shrubs, and as a
7 model for environmentally sound landscape management;

8 (c) To be an area within which the best species of indigenous
9 woody plants can be propagated and where new species that can
10 thrive in the locality be introduced;

11 (d) To provide a healthy and conducive area for recreation,
12 while at the same time enhancing the environmental consciousness
13 of the community to preserve the natural beauty and ambience of
14 the Arboretum's protection zone; and

15 (e) To serve as the habitat for a variety of amphibians,
16 reptiles, birds, small mammals and other wildlife in the area.

17 SEC. 3. The layout and design of the Arboretum shall conform
18 to the following considerations:

19 (a) Trees shall be planted in rows following the contour of the
20 land area;

21 (b) At least five (5) replicates of each species shall be planted
22 to ensure the preservation of the species; and

23 (c) Each tree species shall be numbered, labeled and tagged
24 with scientific name, common or local name, and the date and
25 place of collection. In case of mortality, the appropriate
26 species should be replanted.

1 SEC. 4. To ensure the growth of the species to be planted:

2 (a) Each tree species should be of high quality materials, the
3 selection of which should be made at least twelve (12) months prior
4 to planting, in consultation with the nearest office of the
5 Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR);

6 (b) Proper site preparation should be done prior to planting,
7 to include brushing/slashing, staking, digging of hole, plowing
8 and/or cultivation; and

9 (c) Planting should be done at the onset of the rainy season.

10 SEC. 5. The Arboretum shall be placed under the overall
11 management and supervision of the DENR. The DENR Secretary
12 shall appoint a Superintendent of the Arboretum who, together with
13 a staff to be provided by the DENR from among its staff, shall
14 ensure the proper management of the Arboretum.

15 SEC. 6. An Oversight Committee is hereby created to oversee
16 and monitor the development and operation of the Arboretum
17 composed of the following:

18 (a) The DENR Secretary or a duly designated representative,
19 as Chairperson;

20 (b) The Provincial Governor of the Province of Lanao del
21 Norte or a duly designated representative, as Cochairperson;

22 (c) The Mayor of the Municipality of Tagoloan, Lanao del
23 Norte, as Vice Chairperson;

24 (d) The President of the League of Municipal Mayors of Lanao
25 del Norte or the Vice President thereof if the Mayor of Tagoloan is
26 the President of the League, as member; and

1 (e) One (1) member to be appointed by the DENR Secretary
2 from among three (3) recommendees of the Provincial Governor.

3 SEC. 7. The Arboretum may accept donations from
4 government agencies or local and foreign private entities.

5 SEC. 8. The amount necessary to implement initially the
6 provisions of this Act shall be taken from the available savings of
7 the DENR System. Such sums as may be necessary for the
8 continued operation of the Arboretum shall be included in the
9 annual General Appropriations Act.

10 SEC. 9. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
11 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in any newspaper of general
12 circulation.

Approved,

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