



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 8982

BY REPRESENTATIVES ROA-PUNO, ACOP, TAMBUNTING, ALEJANO,
SY-ALVARADO, CAMPOS, RODRIGUEZ (I.), BELARO, DUAVIT AND
NIETO, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1159

AN ACT DECLARING THE PROVINCE OF RIZAL A TOURISM
DEVELOPMENT AREA AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR

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

1 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the
2 “Rizal Tourism Development Act”.

3 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the
4 policy of the State to promote a tourism industry that is ecologically
5 sustainable, responsible, participative, culturally sensitive,
6 economically viable, and equitable for local communities. To this
7 end, the State shall endeavor to provide the proper mechanisms
8 and infrastructure for sustainable tourism development. It shall
9 promote and develop certain areas and sites identified as tourist
10 destinations or attractions or having potential for tourism in order
11 to drive and propel inclusive growth throughout the country.

12 SEC. 3. *Province of Rizal as Tourism Development Area.* –
13 The Province of Rizal is hereby declared a tourism development

1 area. As such, its development shall be prioritized by the
2 Department of Tourism (DOT) and the Department of Public
3 Works and Highways (DPWH), subject to the rules and regulations
4 governing the development of tourism development areas.

5 SEC. 4. *Tourism Development Plan.* – The DOT, in
6 coordination with the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone
7 Authority (TIEZA) and other concerned agencies of the government,
8 shall prepare a tourism development plan for the Province of Rizal,
9 providing for the development, maintenance, improvement and
10 restoration of tourist sites, where appropriate, in conformity with
11 set forth standards, including the construction of hotels, resorts,
12 restaurants, recreational facilities and other appropriate facilities
13 and infrastructure: *Provided*, That said development plan shall
14 ensure the preservation of the ecological balance and natural beauty
15 of the area/s concerned. The DOT shall incorporate the tourism
16 development plan to the overall National Tourism Development
17 Plan pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as “The
18 Tourism Act of 2009”.

19 The concerned local government unit (LGU), in coordination
20 with the DOT, TIEZA, Department of Environment and Natural
21 Resources (DENR) and other concerned agencies of the government,
22 shall delineate well-defined geographic areas within the tourism
23 development area and coordinate the integrated development of
24 these areas for the optimum use of its natural assets, attractions
25 and existing facilities.

26 The tourism development plan shall be jointly implemented
27 by the LGUs concerned and the Provincial Tourism Council of Rizal.

1 The DPWH, in coordination with the DOT, shall implement
2 the construction of roads and other infrastructure necessary in the
3 development of the Province of Rizal upon the promulgation of this
4 Act and incorporate the same in its infrastructure program.

5 SEC. 5. *Rizal Tourism Council.* –

6 (a) There is hereby organized the Rizal Tourism Council,
7 hereinafter referred to as the Council, which shall be the primary
8 policy-making, planning and coordinating body in the development
9 of tourism in the Province of Rizal and administration of ecotourism
10 sites therein.

11 The Council shall be composed of:

12 (1) The Provincial Governor of Rizal, as Chairperson;

13 (2) The Mayors of all the municipalities and cities of Rizal,
14 who shall elect from among themselves the Council's Vice
15 Chairperson;

16 (3) A member of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Rizal, duly
17 designated by such body; and

18 (4) Two (2) representatives from the private sector,
19 nominated by the private sector tourism industry organizations in
20 the Province of Rizal and appointed by the Chairperson of the
21 Council, who shall serve for a period of two (2) years.

22 The Council may create such committees and provide for the
23 functions and the memberships thereof to assist it in the proper and
24 effective performance of its functions.

25 (b) In order to provide assistance and support to the Council
26 in the performance of its functions, the following shall serve as
27 advisors:

- 1 (1) The Chief Operating Officer of the TIEZA;
- 2 (2) The Regional Director of the DOT for Region IV-A;
- 3 (3) The Regional Director of the DENR for Region IV-A;
- 4 (4) The Regional Director of the DPWH for Region IV-A; and
- 5 (5) The Regional Director of the National Economic and
6 Development Authority (NEDA) for Region IV-A.

7 The Council may call on other government agencies and
8 offices to provide advice and assistance on matters relating to the
9 performance of its functions and the development of tourism
10 in the Province of Rizal.

11 (c) The Council shall ensure that constituencies, sectors and
12 groups, whose interests may be affected by the tourism development
13 in the Province of Rizal, are given sufficient opportunities to be
14 heard. The Council shall pursue consultations with relevant sectors
15 and constituencies, conduct research, and engage the services and
16 assistance of experts and other resource persons, as may be needed
17 in the performance of its functions.

18 (d) The Provincial Government of Rizal shall provide the
19 Secretariat for the Council, including the necessary expenses for the
20 performance of its official functions and activities.

21 (e) The functions of the Council shall be harmonized with the
22 functions and responsibilities of the Protected Area Management
23 Board (PAMB), the protected area superintendents and the regional
24 ecotourism committee to avoid any overlap or conflict.

25 SEC. 6. *Rizal Tourism Development Fund.* – There is hereby
26 established a trust fund under this Act, to be known as the Rizal
27 Tourism Development Trust Fund, for purposes of financing

1 projects which shall enhance tourism in the Province of Rizal. The
2 Trust Fund shall be administered by a Trust Fund Administrator
3 under the Provincial Tourism Office of the Province of Rizal. Funds
4 shall be derived from fees collected from visitors/tourists, other
5 resources from the Province, proceeds from the registration and
6 lease of multiple-use areas, including tourism concessions, fees,
7 proceeds and contributions from industries and facilities directly
8 benefitting the Province.

9 The Fund may be augmented by grants and donations,
10 endowments from various sources, domestic or foreign entities and
11 individuals, for purposes related to their functions: *Provided*, That
12 disbursements therefrom shall be in accordance with existing
13 accounting and auditing rules and regulations: *Provided, further*,
14 That the Fund shall not be used to cover personnel services
15 expenditures.

16 SEC. 7. *Appropriations.* – The Secretary of the DOT and
17 the Secretary of the DPWH shall include in their respective
18 Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding
19 of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act
20 and internally generated funds of the DOT.

21 SEC. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within
22 sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOT, in
23 coordination with the LGUs of the Province of Rizal, shall likewise
24 promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper
25 implementation of this Act.

26 SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part of
27 this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining

1 parts or provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force
2 and effect.

3 SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees,
4 executive orders, rules and regulations and other issuances or
5 parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act
6 shall be deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

7 SEC. 11. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
8 days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of
9 general circulation.

Approved,

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