



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 5371

BY REPRESENTATIVES BANAAG, DE VENECIA, DEL MAR, GULLAS, CERILLES
AND CODILLA, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1608

AN ACT DECLARING CERTAIN PARCELS OF LAND OF THE PUBLIC
DOMAIN WITHIN SMALL ISLANDS AS AGRICULTURAL LAND
OPEN TO DISPOSITION FOR COMMERCIAL ECO-TOURISM
AND OTHER PRODUCTIVE PURPOSES

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

1 SECTION 1. Certain parcels of land of the public domain within small
2 islands, with land areas of fifty thousand (50,000) hectares or less, already
3 devoted to or with great potential for eco-tourism ventures such as resorts, eco-
4 parks and hotels, are hereby declared agricultural lands open to disposition for
5 commercial eco-tourism purposes and other productive purposes: *Provided,*
6 That the parcels of land herein declared as agricultural lands have already been
7 subjected to a public cadastral survey pursuant to Cadastral Act No. 2259, and
8 were properly delineated and identified in the said cadastral survey.

9 SEC. 2. For ecological consideration and environmental protection of
10 small islands, their coastal areas or the band of dry land within their shorelines
11 covering twenty (20) meters landward from the point where the seawater

1 reaches during the highest high tide shall remain under the classification of
2 forest or timberland.

3 SEC. 3. Subject to the vested rights of qualified occupants, the
4 disposition of the agricultural lands declared in Section 1 hereof shall be
5 governed by the provisions of Commonwealth Act No. 141 or the Public Land
6 Act, as amended.

7 SEC. 4. Within ninety (90) days after the effectivity of this Act, the
8 Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, in
9 consultation with the Department of Tourism and concerned sectors, shall issue
10 the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

11 SEC. 5. All laws, decrees, orders, proclamations, rules and regulations
12 or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed,
13 amended and/or modified accordingly.

14 SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
15 in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two national newspapers of general
16 circulation.

Approved,