

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 9001

BY REPRESENTATIVE ESPINO, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 868

**AN ACT
DECLARING “KWEBANG HAPON” LOCATED IN BARANGAY
MANLOCBOC, MUNICIPALITY OF AGUILAR, PROVINCE OF
PANGASINAN, AN ECOTOURISM DESTINATION, AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1 SECTION 1. “Kwebang Hapon” located in Barangay Manlocboc, Municipality of
2 Aguilar, Province of Pangasinan, is hereby declared an ecotourism destination. As such,
3 its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the
4 rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism destinations.

5 SEC. 2. Within six (6) months after the approval of this Act, the DOT, in
6 coordination with the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA) and
7 other concerned agencies of government, shall prepare an ecotourism development plan
8 containing, among others, the construction, installation and maintenance of such
9 appropriate facilities and infrastructure that shall enhance tourism in the area: *Provided,*
10 That said development plan shall ensure the preservation of the natural beauty and
11 historical significance of the area.

1 SEC. 3. The DOT, in coordination with the Department of Public Works and
2 Highways (DPWH), the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and
3 the municipal government of Aguilar, shall take immediate steps to implement the
4 ecotourism development plan for “Kweba ng Hapon,” and shall incorporate the same in
5 the National Tourism Development Plan.

6 SEC. 4. The Secretaries of the DOT, DPWH, and DENR shall include in their
7 respective Department’s program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which
8 shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and shall augment such
9 allocation with internally generated funds of the DOT.

10 SEC. 5. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the
11 DOT shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation
12 of this Act.

13 SEC. 6. All laws, rules, regulations, presidential decrees and other issuances
14 inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed and
15 amended accordingly.

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

18 *Approved,*