HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 8200

BY REPRESENTATIVES CHUNGALAO, ARARGONES, BASCUG, UY (J.), VIOLAGO, GATO, CABREDO, CELESTE AND SAULOG, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 654

AN ACT
DECLARING MT. KITUMMAN LOCATED IN BARANGAY TUNGNGOD IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LAGAWE, PROVINCE OF IFUGAO, AN ECOTOURISM DESTINATION, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Mount Kitumman located in Barangay Tungngod in the Municipality of Lagawe, Province of Ifugao, where the historical Bintacan Cave is located, is hereby declared an ecotourism destination. As such, its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of ecotourism destinations.

Sec. 2. Within six (6) months after the approval of this Act, the DOT, in coordination with the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority and other concerned agencies of the government, shall prepare a tourism development plan including the construction, installation and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and infrastructure that shall enhance tourism in the area: Provided, That the development plan shall ensure the preservation of the natural beauty and historical significance of the area.
Sec. 3. The DOT, in coordination with the Department of Public Works and Highways, Department of Environment and Natural Resources and concerned local government units, shall take immediate steps to implement the tourism development plan and incorporate the same in its tourism development program for the ensuing calendar year.

Sec. 4. The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department’s program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act, and shall augment such allocation with internally generated funds of the Department.

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

Sec. 6. All laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, presidential decrees and other issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

Sec. 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,