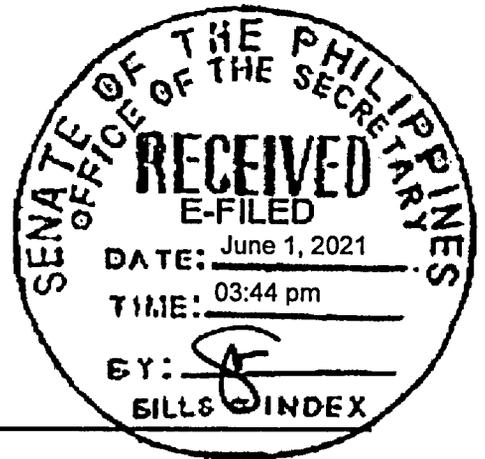


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )

SENATE  
S.B. No. 2255



Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

**AN ACT DECLARING PEKKANG FALLS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SINAIT; BECQUES FALLS AND ARISUDUSOD FALLS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CABUGAO; PIKKANG FALLS AND TURTURAYOK FALLS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN JUAN; PIMMADER FALLS, PIMMILOV FALLS, AND ALVIN FALLS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF STO. DOMINGO; AND BURAYOK FALLS, NAGBALDI FALLS, MASUNGAD FALLS, AND PUNDO FALLS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BANTAY, ALL LOCATED IN THE PROVINCE OF ILOCOS SUR, AS ECOTOURISM SITES, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

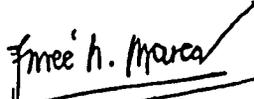
#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Section 16 of Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that "*The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.*"

According to the Department of Tourism (DOT), the province of Ilocos Sur is where the Ilocos Region's myriad of cultures and histories converge to become a living museum of a spirited past. A national shrine, a national landmark, heritage museums, ancestral houses, period houses, and cobble-stoned streets are among these. As the region prepares to welcome tourists back, the government must also find ways to conserve bio-cultural diversity and protect the natural and cultural heritage.

This bill therefor seeks to declare Pekkang Falls in the municipality of Sinait, Becques Falls and Arisudusod Falls in the municipality of Cabugao; Pikkang Falls and Turturayok Falls in the municipality of San Juan; Pimmader Falls, Pimilov Falls and Alvin Falls in the municipality of Sto. Domingo; and Burayok Falls, Nagbaldi Falls, Masungad Falls, Pundo Falls in the municipality of Bantay; all in the Province of Ilocos Sur as Ecotourism Sites to encourage positive experience for tourists, minimize the unwanted impact of tourism on the environment, and improve the well-being of local people residing in the locality.

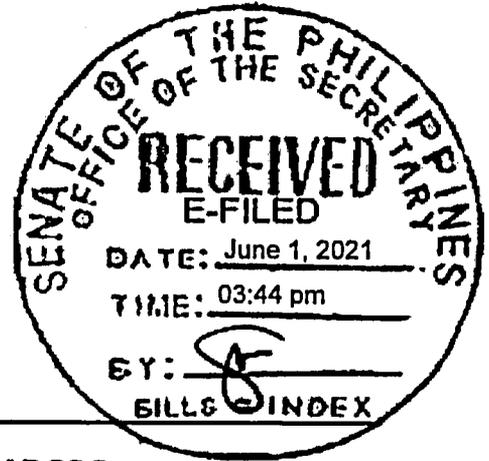
In view of the foregoing, the expeditious passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
**IMEE R. MARCOS**

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
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**AN ACT DECLARING PEKKANG FALLS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SINAIT; BECQUES FALLS AND ARISUDUSOD FALLS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CABUGAO; PIKKANG FALLS AND TURTURAYOK FALLS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN JUAN; PIMMADER FALLS, PIMMILOV FALLS, AND ALVIN FALLS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF STO. DOMINGO; AND BURAYOK FALLS, NAGBALDI FALLS, MASUNGAD FALLS, AND PUNDO FALLS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BANTAY, ALL LOCATED IN THE PROVINCE OF ILOCOS SUR, AS ECOTOURISM SITES, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1           **SECTION 1.** Pekkang Falls in the Municipality of Sinait; Becques Falls and  
2 Arisudusod Falls in the Municipality of Cabugao; Pikkang Falls and Turturayok Falls in  
3 the Municipality of San Juan; Pimmader Falls, Pimmilov Falls, and Alvin Falls in the  
4 Municipality of Sto. Domingo; and Burayok Falls, Nagbaldi Falls, Masungad Falls, and  
5 Pundo Falls in the Municipality of Bantay, all located in the Province of Ilocos Sur, are  
6 hereby declared as ecotourism sites. Their development shall be prioritized by the  
7 Department of Tourism (DOT), subject to the rules and regulations governing the  
8 development of ecotourism sites

9           **SEC. 2.** The DOT, in coordination with the provincial government of Ilocos Sur,  
10 Protected Area Management Board (PAMB), Ilocos Sur National Park (ISNP), Tourism  
11 Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA) and other concerned agencies  
12 of the government, shall identify well defined geographic areas within the declared  
13 ecotourism sites and coordinate the integrated development of these areas for the  
14 optimum utilization of natural assets and attractions, including existing infrastructure  
15 and facilities: *Provided*, That the development shall ensure the preservation of the  
16 natural beauty and resources of the identified ecotourism sites.

17           **SEC. 3.** The DOT shall prepare a development plan for these ecotourism sites  
18 and 4 incorporate the same in its tourism development program for the ensuing

1 calendar year. The plan shall be implemented jointly by the provincial government of  
2 Ilocos Sur, PAMB, ISNP, and the TIEZA.

3 **SEC. 4.** The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the  
4 implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the Annual  
5 General Appropriations Act, and shall augment such allocation with internally  
6 generated funds of the DOT.

7 **SEC. 5.** Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the DOT, in  
8 consultation with the provincial government of Ilocos Sur, PAMB, ISNP, TIEZA and  
9 other tourism stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for  
10 the proper implementation of this Act

11 **SEC. 6.** All laws, decrees, executive orders, letters of implementation, rules and  
12 regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby  
13 repealed, modified, superseded or amended accordingly.

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

*Approved,*