

SENATE

S.B. No. 1616

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Introduced by **Senator Richard J. Gordon and the Members of the Committee on Accountability of Public Officers and Investigations**

**AN ACT AMENDING CHAPTER V, SECTION 85 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9593, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "TOURISM ACT OF 2009"**

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 85. General Principles on the Grant and Administration of Incentives.  
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3 (a) Recognizing the strategic economic importance of tourism, the necessity that  
4 investments within TEZs be properly coordinated with environmental, cultural and  
5 developmental imperatives, and the fundamental differences between the export  
6 manufacturing and tourism industries, the TIEZA shall have sole and exclusive  
7 jurisdiction to grant the incentives hereinafter provided.

8 In the formulation of rules and regulations defining and implementing these  
9 incentives, and without derogating therefrom, the TIEZA may coordinate with the  
10 Board of Investments and other government agencies or entities responsible for the  
11 grant and administration of incentives to assist in the development of a rationalized  
12 national investment incentive policy.

13 In the grant of incentives, it shall give equal preference to large investments, those  
14 with great potential for employment generation and those of local small and medium  
15 enterprises. Registered tourism enterprises owned and operated by overseas Filipino  
16 investors shall enjoy the same incentives granted to TEZ operators and registered  
17 enterprises in general. The amount of required investments shall be defined in the  
18 implementing rules and regulations of this Act. The incentive schemes set forth in  
19 Sections 86, 87 and 88 shall be in effect for a period of **SEVENTEEN (17)** years from  
20 the effectivity of this Act, which period is subject to review by the Joint Congressional  
21 Oversight Committee on Tourism."

22 X X X

23 SECTION 2. **Repealing Clause.** - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or other  
24 issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with Section 1 of this Act are hereby repealed or  
25 modified accordingly.

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27 Section 3. **Effectivity Clause.** - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the  
28 completion of its publication either in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general  
29 circulation in the Philippines.

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31 Approved,