

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2117

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

RECEIVED

28 JUL 2016

DATE:

TIME:

11:30 am

BY:

[Signature]

REGISTRATION UNIT
BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE

Introduced by: Representative JOHNNY T. PIMENTEL

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is the policy of the Philippines to ensure and protect the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature. This is enshrined by no less than the Constitution itself.

The forests have long provided for the basic needs of our people. It has been the source of food, livelihood and shelter for many generations that have come before us. Furthermore, the forests serve as the shelter to our highly diverse wildlife and help minimize erosion preventing floods.

However, significant proportions of our forests have succumb to the pervasive heavy loggings to the detriment of floras and faunas that are thriving in these areas. This instance holds true in the rain forests of Surigao del Sur. With the lack of protection to the trees, the future generations of our communities may not enjoy the benefits that our forests have endowed to us.

This Bill seeks to uphold our moral duty to the intergenerational rights accorded to our children by providing the protection and rehabilitation to the timberlands of the Municipality of Hinatuan, Province of Surigao del Sur.

The approval of this Bill is earnestly sought.

JOHNNY T. PIMENTEL

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE REHABILITATION AND REFORESTATION OF THE
TIMBERLANDS OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF HINATUAN, PROVINCE OF
SURIGAO DEL SUR

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

SECTION 1. *Rehabilitation and Reforestation of Hinatuan Timberlands* –

The timberland areas of the Municipality of Hinatuan, Province of Surigao del Sur, covering a Eleven Thousand Four Hundred Eighty-Eight(11,488)-hectare area, shall be rehabilitated and reforested.

SECTION 2. *Supervision* – The Department of Natural Resources (DENR), in cooperation with the Municipal Government of Hinatuan, shall supervise and administer the rehabilitation and reforestation.

SECTION 3. *Priority in Budget Allocation.* The National Government shall appropriate such amount, as may be necessary to carry out the objectives of this Act.

SECTION 4. *Budget Required.* The Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall promulgate a specific programmed budget needed to cover the expenses for the implementation of this Act.

SECTION 5. *Inclusion in the Appropriations Act.* – The amount necessary to implement the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act for the year following the approval of this Act.

SECTION 6. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,