



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 81
NOV 14 2019

Submitted by the Committee on Natural Resources on _____
Re: House Bill No. 1158
Recommending its approval, without amendment.
Sponsors: Representatives Elpidio F. Barzaga, Jr. and Gil "Kabarangay Jr." A. Acosta

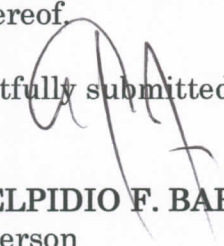
Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Natural Resources, to which was referred House Bill No. 1158, introduced by Representative Gil "Kabarangay Jr." A. Acosta, entitled:

AN ACT
DECLARING THE THIRD DISTRICT OF PALAWAN A MINING-FREE ZONE AND
PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR

has considered the same and recommends its approval, without amendment, with Representatives Acosta and Barzaga, as authors thereof

Respectfully submitted,


REP. ELPIDIO F. BARZAGA, JR.
Chairperson
Committee on Natural Resources

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
House of Representatives
Quezon City

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
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HOUSE BILL NO. 1158

Introduced by Representatives Gil “Kabarangay Jr.” A. Acosta. and Elpidio F.
Barzaga, Jr.

AN ACT
DECLARING THE THIRD DISTRICT OF PALAWAN A MINING-FREE
ZONE AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR

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

ARTICLE I
GENERAL PROVISIONS

1 **SECTION 1. *Statement of Policy.*** – It is the policy of the State to
2 protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful
3 ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature. Towards this
4 end, the State shall protect the people and the environment of the Third
5 District of Palawan composed of the City of Puerto Princesa and the
6 Municipality of Aborlan against the adverse effects of mining.

7 **SEC. 2. *Mining-Free Zone.*** – The Third District of Palawan is hereby
8 declared as a mining-free zone. All forms of mining operations and activities
9 within its territorial jurisdiction are therefore prohibited.

10 As used in this Act, “mining” shall refer to the extraction of valuable
11 minerals or other geological materials, excluding quarrying of gravel, sand
12 and marble. This shall include large-scale and small-scale mining activities
13 involving exploration, feasibility, development, utilization and processing.

14 **SEC. 3. *Penal Provisions.*** – Any person, natural or juridical, or any
15 public officer, who violates the provisions of this Act shall suffer the penalty
16 of imprisonment of not less than six (6) years but not more than twelve (12)

1 years and a fine of not less than One million pesos (P1,000,000.00) but not
2 more than Ten million pesos (P10,000,000.00).

3 Any public officer who violates this Act shall also be dismissed from
4 service and perpetually disqualified from holding public office.

5 If the violator is a juridical entity, the highest ranking official and
6 the members of its board of directors or trustees who authorized the
7 violations therein shall suffer the penalty imposed in this Act.

8 **SEC. 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within sixty (60)
9 days from the passage of this Act, the Department of Environment and
10 Natural Resources shall formulate the necessary rules and regulations for
11 its effective implementation.

12 **SEC. 5. *Separability Clause.*** – If any section or provision of this Act
13 is held unconstitutional or invalid, other provisions which are not affected
14 thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

15 **SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, executive orders, and other
16 issuances inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed
17 or modified accordingly.

18 **SEC. 7. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
19 its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general
20 circulation in the Philippines.

21 Approved,