Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Quezon City

17th CONGRESS First Regular Session

House Bill No. 469

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Introduced by RANEO E. ABU

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The bill seeks to include the Fernando Air Base in Lipa City, Province of Batangas in the conversion of military reservations into other productive uses, amending for the purpose Republic Act (RA) No. 7227, as amended, otherwise known as the "Bases Conversion and Development Act of 1992."

The Fernando Air Base (FAB) was originally constructed by the Japanese Imperial Army before the Second World War and later became training base called the 100th Training Wing where training units and other support units of the Philippine Air Force (PAF) were grouped. In 1999, the Training Wing was deactivated to establish the Air Education and Training Command (AETC) of the PAF with a greater responsibility and under scope of training task.

The bill calls for the inclusion of the FAB in the coverage of military reservations which shall be subject of conversion to other productive and commercial uses pursuant to RA 7227. The proposed measure shall convert the FAB into a dual-use airport which shall serve the Southern Tagalog Region and shall function as subsidiary airport to the Ninoy Aquino International Airport. The administration of the alternative productive projects will be with the Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA), but the military use will continue to be with the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). Furthermore, it is the intention of this bill to keep the ownership of the property with the AFP, not to be transferred to the BCDA. Thus, the adjoining areas may be developed through Public-Private Partnership (PPP) to hasten economic development in the Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal and Quezon (CALABARZON) areas.

In view of the foregoing, passage of this bill this 17th Congress is earnestly sought.

REP. RANEO E. ABU

Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Quezon City

17th CONGRESS First Regular Session

House Bill No. 469

Introduced by RANEO E. ABU

AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR THE INCLUSION OF THE FERNANDO AIR BASE IN LIPA CITY, BATANGAS IN THE CONVERSION OF MILITARY RESERVATIONS INTO OTHER PRODUCTIVE USES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7227, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "BASES CONVERSION AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1992"

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

SECTION 1. Section 2 of Republic Act (RA) No. 7227 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 2.Declaration of Policies. – It is hereby declared the policy of the Government to accelerate the sound and balanced conversion into alternative productive uses of the FERNANDO AIR BASE, Clark and Subic military reservations and their extension (John Hay Station, Wallace Air Station, O'Donnell Transmitter Station, San Miguel Naval Communications Station and Capas Relay Station), to raise funds by the sale portions of Metro Manila military camps, and to apply said funds as provided herein for the development and conversion to productive civilian use of the lands covered under the 1947 Military Bases Agreement between the Philippines and United States of America, as amended.

SEC. 2. Section 4 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 4. Purposes of the Conversion Authority. – The Conversion Authority shall have the following purposes:

- a) To own, hold and/or administer the military reservations of John Hay Station, Wallace Air Station, O'Donnell Transmitter Station, San Miguel Naval Communication Station, Mt. Sta. Rita Station (Hermosa, Bataan), INCLUDING FERNANDO AIR BASE and those portions of Metro Manila military camps which may be transferred to it by the President;
- c) To encourage the active participation of the private sector in transforming the FERNANDO AIR BASE, Clark and Subic military reservations and their extensions into other productive uses;

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- f) To establish mechanism in coordination with the appropriate local government units to effect meaningful consultation regarding the plans, programs, and projects within the regions where such plans, programs and/or project developments are part of the conversion of the FERNANDO AIR BASE, Clark and Subic military reservations and their extensions and surrounding communities as envisioned in this Act; and
- SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in newspaper of general circulation,

Approved.