

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Thirteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HB No. 3496



Introduced by **Suharto T. Mangudadatu**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Four catastrophic typhoons have just hit us in barely a month, smashing up residential houses, agricultural crops and livestock, infrastructures and worst, claiming thousands of lives all over the country simultaneously.

Based on figures from the Office of the Civil defense, a total of 335, 443 persons were affected and a total of 2,000 houses were destroyed.

We have seen the effects brought by the destruction of our forests. Remember what happened in Ormoc, Leyte in 1991 which claimed the lives of 6,000 innocent people and the tragedy that hit Nueva Ecija few years ago. We have not learned our lessons from the past. The issue was completely ignored. It is time for us to seriously act on this matter.

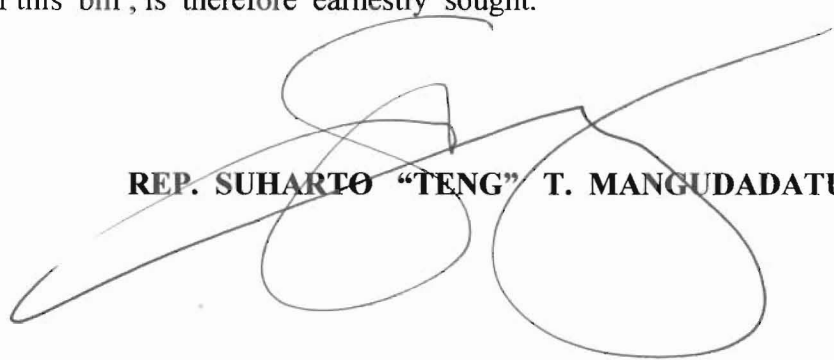
These disasters again brings to fore the issue of illegal logging. History is replete with accounts pointing to illegal logging as the major cause of forest denudation resulting to devastating flash floods and landslides.

Considering the magnitude of casualties collaterally affected by the upshot of illegal logging, this act is henceforth tantamount to a heinous crime which should be meted out with the corresponding penalty of Reclusion Perpetua to death.

This penalty will be an effective deterrent for the perpetrators of this illegal activity. It also aspired that this bill will give justice to the innocent victims of this illegal activity.

The passage of this bill, is therefore earnestly sought.

REP. SUHARTO "TENG" T. MANGUDADATU



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AN ACT
DECLARING ILLEGAL LOGGING, AS DEFINED IN EXISTING LAWS, AS
HEINOUS CRIME AND IMPOSING DEATH PENALTY THEREFORE

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of representatives of the Philippines in congress assembled:

SECTION 1.. Illegal logging is hereby declared a heinous crime.

As used in this Act, "illegal logging" shall pertain to acts defined as such in PD. 705, as amended.

SECTION 2. Any person found guilty of illegal logging shall suffer the penalty of Reclusion Perpetua to Death and a fine of not less than Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (P500,000.00) but not more than One Million Pesos (P 1,000,000.00)

If the offender is a corporation, firm , partnership, or association, the penalty shall be imposed upon the officer or officers of the corporation, firm, partnerships or association responsible for the violation.

SECTION 3. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall promulgate the Implementing rules and regulations of this Act.

SECTION 4. All laws, decrees, orders, rules and other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect after fifteen days (15) following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.