

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. NO. 781

Introduced by Rep. Aurelio D. Gonzales, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

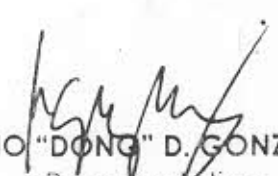
This bill seeks to grant to the residents of the region where a geothermal energy plant is located, a thirty percent (30%) discount on the rate of their electric consumption.

The Philippines is the second biggest geothermal energy producer in the world. Since the issuance on June 11, 1970 of Presidential Decree No. 1442, entitled "An Act to promote the exploration and development of geothermal resources" which offered incentives for the development of geothermal resources, many geothermal plants have been constructed throughout the country. However, these plants have contributed to the pollution of the areas where they are located. The emissions from the geothermal plants pose risk to health, properties and crops of the residents in the area.

A geothermal plant directly affects the health of the inhabitants of the place where it is located. It likewise poses grave danger to the environment and ecology of the area, and the government does not have a comprehensive program that will protect the environment and the inhabitants of the place where a geothermal plant is located.

To compensate the threat posed by these plants, this bill proposes that the residents of the region be given discounted rate for the use of electricity from the geothermal plant located in their region. This is the least that government can do for the people of the region who sacrifice so much in the name of progress. Considering that the entire nation benefits from these plants, it is but fair that the people who are prejudiced thereby should be granted incentives.

Passage of this bill is earnestly recommended.


AURELIO "DONG" D. GONZALES, JR.
Representative
3rd District, Pampanga

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AN ACT
GRANTING TO RESIDENTS OF THE REGION WHERE A GEOTHERMAL
ENERGY PLANT IS LOCATED A THIRTY PERCENT (30%) DISCOUNT ON
THEIR POWER RATE CONSUMPTION

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

SECTION 1. Residents of the region where a geothermal energy plant is located shall be entitled to thirty percent (30%) discount on their power rate consumption.

SEC. 2. The Energy Regulatory Board shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 3. All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,