



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

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **2717**

Introduced by Honorable MA. ANGELICA M. AMANTE-MATBA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The mining industry is admittedly an indispensable component of growth, both globally and locally, for it stirs the desirable economic ferment to translate to utmost usefulness God's mineral gifts to material wealth. As a consequence, it activates to commendable productivity even idle lands to insure health as component in the creation of wealth to uplift the living condition of the poor to be productive members of society.

While mining activities, if not conducted properly, can cause environmental destruction, it is best to devolve the authority to issue mining permits for small and large scale operations to the provincial government units within their respective jurisdictional territory for they have the proximity to effect quick response, affinity to be so concerned, and knowledge to know what is best for their constituents in their respective territories in the spirit of good fathers of the family. Furthermore, as further insurance, the guidelines of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources must be observed to ensure that only those persons and entities that are qualified under standards set forth by the government are allowed to operate. Thus, any activity which contravenes the guidelines can be immediately addressed by the provincial government unit concerned.

Under the proposed measure, the share of the National Government in the taxes generated from mining will not be affected since only the power to issue permit for mining operations will be devolved to the provincial government units.

To activate the countryside in economic activity which is badly needed by our country, early approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


MA. ANGELICA M. AMANTE-MATBA



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AN ACT

AUTHORIZING PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO ISSUE BOTH SMALL AND LARGE SCALE MINING PERMITS FOR MINING OPERATIONS WITHIN THEIR RESPECTIVE TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION SUBJECT TO THE GUIDELINES OF THE MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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

SECTION 1. This Act authorizes provincial government units to issue both small and large scale mining permits for mining operations within their respective territorial jurisdiction in accordance with the guidelines of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

SECTION 2. Repealing Clause. – All acts, laws, decrees, executive orders or provisions thereof, and the rules and regulations thereof which are contrary or inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 3. Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,