

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1156

Introduced by **REP. CESAR V. SARMIENTO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Mangrove trees play an important role in marine and estuarine areas especially because they are one of the few species of trees that can thrive in salty water. Considered to have an ecosystem of its own, it is the home and breeding ground not just of marine organisms but also of other animals and plants.

Coastlines all over the world are having serious problems due to climate change. The mangrove ecosystem can help mitigate the harmful effects of climate change because it serves as an effective buffer between the land and the sea. It defends the land by being engulfed by the sea due to the rising level of seawater. It protects shorelines from damaging erosions. It also stabilizes coasts and river banks and filters pollutants of seawater.

In other parts of the world, people have utilized mangrove trees as a renewable resource. Harvested for durable, water-resistant wood, mangroves have been used in building houses, boats, pilings, and furniture. The wood of the black mangrove has also been utilized in the production of charcoal. Tannins and other dyes are extracted from mangrove bark. Leaves have been used in tea, medicine, livestock feed, and as a substitute for tobacco.

Majority of the towns in the province of Catanduanes has a coastal area. In order to save its marine diversity which is fast diminishing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



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**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE REFORESTATION AND REHABILITATION
OF APPROXIMATELY NINETY FOUR (94) HECTARES OF MANGROVE
AREAS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF VIRAC, PROVINCE OF
CATANDUANES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. Mangrove areas in the municipality of Virac, Province of Catanduanes, covering approximately ninety four (94) hectares shall be rehabilitated under the supervision of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) through the Local Provincial/Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (P/CENRO).

SECTION 2. The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations of the DENR under the General Appropriations Act. Therefore, such sum as may be necessary for the maintenance, protection and preservation of the areas covered shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 3. This Act will take effect upon its approval.

Approved,