

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 2143

Introduced by HON. FLORENCIO C. GARAY

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Forests are essential to life. This holds true particularly in the Second Congressional District of Surigao del Sur.

The Second District of Surigao del Sur is providentially situated between the seas and the forests. It is the site of the last remaining dipterocarp forests. Surrounded by natural resources, our District has been blessed with a seemingly inexhaustible supply of timber and wood materials. However, rampant illegal logging activities within the former PICOP concession area threaten to strip our District of the forest resources necessary to sustain life in our communities.

It is the policy of the State to protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature. Pursuant thereto, this bill seeks to provide for the reforestation and rehabilitation of Eleven Thousand Four Hundred Eighty-Eight (11,488) hectares of timberland in the Municipality of Hinatuan, Province of Surigao del Sur to help maintain the ecological balance and promote the sustainable development of our forest resources.

In view of its national and local importance, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


FLORENCIO C. GARAY

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE REFORESTATION AND REHABILITATION OF
ELEVEN THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED EIGHTY-EIGHT (11,488)
HECTARES OF TIMBERLAND IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF HINATUAN,
PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR

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

SECTION 1. The timberland area in the Municipality of Hinatuan, Province of Surigao del Sur, covering an area of Eleven Thousand Four Hundred Eighty-Eight (11,488) hectares, shall be reforested and rehabilitated under the supervision of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) through the Provincial/Community Environment and Natural Resources (PENRO/CENRO).

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

SECTION 3. This Act shall take upon its approval.

Approved,