

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **5117**



Introduced by Honorable Gil P. Acosta

AN ACT
RECLASSIFYING CERTAIN PARCELS OF LAND OF THE
PUBLIC DOMAIN COVERED BY PROCLAMATION NO. 718
DATED OCTOBER 19, 2004 LOCATED IN BARANGAYS
IWAHIG AND INAGAWAN-SUB, PUERTO PRINCESA CITY
FROM UNCLASSIFIED PUBLIC FOREST INTO ALIENABLE
AND DISPOSABLE LAND

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In search for a better life that is every man's due, many people in droves move to the province of Palawan and City of Puerto Princesa to look for opportunities. Such a fact calls for establishing one's living condition but usually many ended up being members of a ramshackle colony; their home in shanties and located in unzoned neighborhoods in private or publicly owned lands.

Puerto Princesa's vast area of 253,982 hectares and its rich terrestrial and marine resources have become like magnets that attracted a lot of in-migrants from all over the country. They come in droves and settled in public and private land whose owners either not care or know. Majority of them being fishermen choose the coastal areas for being the closest to their source of livelihood. This went unabated for many years.

In October 15, 1912, Executive Order No. 67 established the Iwahig Prison and Penal Farm in Palawan. The immense tracts of arable land have been reserved as penal farms under the auspices of the Bureau of Corrections of the Department of Justice. The penal reservation embraced 41,007 hectares where the reformed

ones" are allowed to roam within the compound and mingle with the community, while the "hard cores" remain in maximum confinement. Within the reservation, there are informal farmstead tended by former prisoners who after serving their sentence, have decided to stay and start a new life.

While the proclamation envisages an ideal rehabilitation area for convicts no longer treated as a threat to public safety, majority of the land declared is never utilized to serve its purpose. On October 19, 2004, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, issued Proclamation No. 718 that leads to the amendment of Executive Order No. 67 (October 15, 1912) by "segregating portions of the land embraced therein and declaring the same as civil reservation for resettlement and agricultural sites purposes, subject to actual survey, and to private rights."

As the effect of Proclamation 718 merely *segregated* more than one thousand four hundred thirty nine (1,439.47) hectares from the 41,007 hectares of reservation, the same remains to have a status as "unclassified forest" as per CENRO Puerto Princesa certification. On the ground, settlements have been in place. The presence of churches, schools and governmental institutions has been established and obviously lives are being build. But tenurial instruments may not be issued since the land needs a conversion from unclassified forest/timberland to alienable and disposable land as per the provisions of Commonwealth Act 141 of 1936.

Moreover, other than the peace of mind and security of tenure and other rights appurtenant to its ownership, the taxes that may be levied from the claimants and future owners are of potent value to the local government of Puerto Princesa and the national coffers vis-à-vis existing valuation and assessment schedules.

Its eventual conversion from unclassified forest/timberland to alienable and disposable land shall have long term benefits to both government and its people.

In view of the foregoing, immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



GIL P. ACOSTA
Representative
3rd District of Palawan

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **5117**

Introduced by Honorable Gil P. Acosta

AN ACT
RECLASSIFYING CERTAIN PARCELS OF LAND OF THE
PUBLIC DOMAIN COVERED BY PROCLAMATION NO. 718
DATED OCTOBER 19, 2004 LOCATED IN BARANGAYS
IWAHIG AND INAGAWAN-SUB, PUERTO PRINCESA CITY
FROM UNCLASSIFIED PUBLIC FOREST INTO ALIENABLE
AND DISPOSABLE LAND

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

3 **SECTION 1.** The herein described parcels of land of the public domain containing
4 a total land area of One Thousand, Four Hundred Thirty Nine (1,439.47) hectares
5 encompassing the territorial jurisdictions of Barangays Iwahig and Inagawan-Sub,
6 City of Puerto Princesa are hereby declared agricultural land open to disposition
7 for agricultural, commercial, residential, industrial and other productive purposes
8 and to private rights, which parcel of land is more particularly described as
9 follows:

10

11

LOT 1

A PARCEL OF LAND, (being a portion of Iwahig Prison and Penal Farm by virtue of Executive Order No. 67, Series of 1912), situated at Sitios Malamig and Bocana, Barangay Iwahig, City of Puerto Princesa, Island of Palawan. Bounded on the North by the property of the Department of Agriculture; on the East by Puerto Princesa Bay; on the South by Balsahan River; and on the West by the National Highway (60.00 m. wide). Beginning at a point marked "1" being North 65 deg. 56' West, 9,116.75 m. from B. L. L. M. No. 1, Cad-800-D, Puerto Princesa Cadastre, thence:

N. 18° 29' E.,	1,492.61 m. to point 2;
N. 12° 13' E.,	733.61 m. to point 3;
N. 07° 37' E.,	73.98 m. to point 4;
N. 23° 21' E.,	567.75 m. to point 5;
N. 23° 21' E.,	291.71 m. to point 6;
N. 68° 56' E.,	1,478.21 m. to point 7;
S. 12° 10' W.,	827.67 m. to point 8;
S. 04° 52' W.,	739.66 m. to point 9;
S. 41° 50' W.,	875.87 m. to point 10;
S. 00° 42' E.,	1,156.20 m. to point 11;
S. 06° 14' E.,	1,159.52 m. to point 12;
S. 29° 40' E.,	1,155.74 m. to point 13;
S. 56° 21' W.,	299.28 m. to point 14;
N. 75° 32' W.,	933.89 m. to point 15;
S. 68° 59' W.,	217.55 m. to point 16;
S. 21° 09' W.,	124.29 m. to point 17;
S. 00° 58' W.,	155.46 m. to point 18;
S. 50° 05' W.,	127.28 m. to point 19;

S. 82° 28' W.,	181.92 m. to point 20;
N. 00° 43' E.,	514.34 m. to point 21;
N. 06° 12' W.,	558.61 m. to point 22;
N. 12° 33' W.,	246.33 m. to point 23;
N. 46° 25' W.,	175.16 m. to point 24;
N. 23° 04' W.,	456.67 m. to point 25;
N. 25° 38' W.,	428.13 m. to point 26;
N. 04° 16' E.,	320.38 m. to point 27;
N. 04° 42' W.,	340.91 m. to point 28;
N. 00° 32' W.,	534.15 m.

22

23 To point of, Beginning, containing an area of **NINE MILLION ONE HUNDRED**
 24 **SIXTY NINE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED THIRTY EIGHT (9,169,938)**
 25 **SQUARE METERS**, more or less.

26

27

LOT 2

28 A parcel of land (being a portion of Iwahig Penal Colony by virtue of Executive
 29 Order No. 67, series of 1912), situated at Sitio Tagbarungis, Barangay Inagawan,
 30 City of Puerto Princesa, Island of Palawan. Bounded on the Northeast by
 31 Proclamation No. 2347; on the Southeast by Sulu Sea; on the Southwest by
 32 Module 5, Cad-800-D, Case 38, Puerto Princesa Cadastre; and on the Northwest by
 33 the National Highway (60.00 m. wide). Beginning at a point marked "1" being
 34 South 24° 20' West, 19,138.41 m. from B. L. L. M. No. 1, Cad-800-D, Puerto
 35 Princesa Cadastre, thence:

N. 64° 36' E.,	524.94 m. to point 2;
N. 61° 28' E.,	804.41 m. to point 3;
N. 66° 17' E.,	217.90 m. to point 4;
N. 43° 24' E.,	185.90 m. to point 5;
N. 35° 42' E.,	223.56 m. to point 6;
N. 34° 15' E.,	650.63 m. to point 7;
N. 01° 51' W.,	244.52 m. to point 8;

N. 27° 14' E.,	570.62 m. to point 9;
N. 30° 03' E.,	323.14 m. to point 10;
S. 89° 25' E.,	53.81 m. to point 11;
S. 29° 21' W.,	924.93 m. to point 12;
S. 04° 28' E.,	341.17 m. to point 13;
S. 33° 08' W.,	955.42 m. to point 14;
S. 03° 45' W.,	466.47 m. to point 15;
S. 38° 23' W.,	849.72 m. to point 16;
N. 83° 13' W.,	338.60 m. to point 17;
S. 12° 17' E.,	178.93 m. to point 18;
S. 50° 05' W.,	169.68 m. to point 19;
S. 15° 37' W.,	158.90 m. to point 20;
S. 80° 12' W.,	200.85 m. to point 21;
N. 45° 03' W.,	198.97 m. to point 22;
S. 09° 01' W.,	59.22 m. to point 23;
S. 46° 25' E.,	193.40 m. to point 24;
S. 26° 08' W.,	119.42 m. to point 25;
S. 46° 31' W.,	82.47 m. to point 26;
N. 35° 35' W.,	86.60 m. to point 27;
S. 48° 42' W.,	62.80 m. to point 28;
S. 45° 47' W.,	333.04 m. to point 29;
S. 43° 27' W.,	227.63 m. to point 30;
S. 62° 44' W.,	78.64 m. to point 31;
S. 88° 06' W.,	102.89 m. to point 32;
S. 10° 49' E.,	112.85 m. to point 33;
S. 15° 42' E.,	86.49 m. to point 34;
N. 78° 51' E.,	60.76 m. to point 35;
S. 48° 29' E.,	88.59 m. to point 36;
S. 27° 56' W.,	140.70 m. to point 37;
S. 59° 50' W.,	187.11 m. to point 38;
S. 28° 39' W.,	154.63 m. to point 39;
S. 56° 00' W.,	276.49 m. to point 40;
S. 25° 46' W.,	210.12 m. to point 41;
S. 66° 17' W.,	98.24 m. to point 42;
N. 79° 43' W.,	103.94 m. to point 43;
S. 65° 28' W.,	250.54 m. to point 44;

N. 70° 55' W.,	255.37 m. to point 45;
N. 64° 55' W.,	100.55 m. to point 46;
S. 61° 15' W.,	103.99 m. to point 47;
S. 38° 12' W.,	62.89 m. to point 48;
N. 80° 51' W.,	121.82 m. to point 49;
N. 16° 25' W.,	57.63 m. to point 50;
N. 69° 00' W.,	157.50 m. to point 51;
S. 52° 27' W.,	674.95 m. to point 52;
S. 29° 15' W.,	573.06 m. to point 53;
N. 61° 46' W.,	1,532.36 m. to point 54;
N. 19° 12' E.,	563.05 m. to point 55;
N. 41° 46' E.,	348.21 m. to point 56;
S. 89° 40' E.,	621.52 m. to point 57;
N. 58° 58' E.,	370.95 m. to point 58;
N. 77° 51' E.,	1,521.32 m. to point 59;
N. 54° 13' E.,	616.05 m. to point 60;
N. 29° 16' E.,	1,299.26 m.

36 to point of beginning containing an area of **FIVE MILLION TWO HUNDRED**
37 **TWENTY FOUR THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED FORTY EIGHT**
38 **(5,224,748) SQUARE METERS**, more or less.

39 **SECTION 2.** The Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural
40 Resources shall issue the necessary implementing orders, rules, and regulations
41 and circulars to implement the provisions of this Act.

42

43 **SECTION 3.** All laws, executive orders and other issuances inconsistent with the
44 provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

45

46 **SECTION 4.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

47

48 Approved.

49