

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 4103



Introduced by Pangasinan Fifth District Representative
HON. RAMON N. GUICO JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

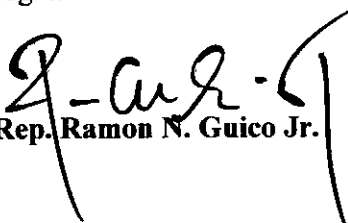
In 2025 alone, the Philippines has suffered alarming environmental damage that highlights the urgent need for stronger ecological safeguards. The dry season brought one of the most severe El Niño episodes in recent years, crippling water supply and devastating farmlands in Central Luzon, Western Visayas, and parts of Mindanao. In July, Typhoon Emong triggered flash floods and landslides in northern Luzon, with reports linking much of the damage to deforested and mine-scarred landscapes. These disasters, worsened by years of environmental neglect and weak enforcement, underscore the need to hold destructive industries—particularly large-scale mining—fully accountable for the long-term harm they inflict.

In response, this measure seeks to increase the fines imposed per violation of Presidential Decree No. 1586 from 50,000 Pesos to not less than 500,000 Pesos, including the imposition of the legal responsibility of rehabilitating, restoring, and paying reparations for critically endangered areas destroyed by these violations to the companies responsible for such unlawful acts.

P.D. 1586, which established the Environmental Impact Statement System has, since 1978, ensured that the “exigencies of socio-economic undertakings can be reconciled with the requirements of environmental quality.” However, after more than two decades, the penalties stipulated on the same need to be escalated, lest we risk the continued flouting of our environmental laws by mega-corporations whose greed knows not of sustainable development.

Presently, the fine of 50,000 pesos could be written off by large companies as negligible losses compared to the millions, even billions of Pesos they rake in profiting from the wanton exploitation of our country’s natural resources. The penalties stipulated in law, therefore, must become more severe in order to protect the integrity of our natural environment and ultimately, the interest of our people and their posterity.

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


Rep. Ramon N. Guico Jr.

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AN ACT
AMENDING SECTION 9 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE 1586 BY INCREASING THE
PENALTIES THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 9 of Presidential Decree 1586 (Environmental Impact Statement
2 System Law) is hereby amended as follows:

3 Section 9. Penalty for Violation. Any person, corporation, or partnership found
4 violating Section 4 of this Decree, or the terms and conditions in the issuance of the
5 Environmental Compliance Certificate, or of the standards, rules and regulations
6 issued by the National Environmental Protection Council pursuant to this Decree
7 shall be punished by the suspension or cancellation of his/its certificate and/or a fine
8 in an amount not [to exceed Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000.00)] **LESS THAN**
9 **FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P500,000) BUT NOT MORE THAN**
10 **TWO MILLION PESOS (P2,000,000)** for every violation thereof[,] **AND**
11 **DEPENDING ON THE EFFECT AND DAMAGE IT CAUSED,** at the discretion
12 of the National Environmental Protection Security Council.

13 **IN ADDITION TO THE PENALTIES IMPOSED ON THE PRECEDING**
14 **PARAGRAPH AND SUCH OTHER LIABILITIES AS MAY BE ENACTED**
15 **UNDER OTHER SPECIAL LAWS, ANY PERSON, PARTNERSHIP OR**
16 **CORPORATION FOUND VIOLATING SECTION 4 OF THIS DECREE OR**
17 **THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL**
18 **COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATE SHALL BE OBLIGED TO SHOULDER THE**
19 **FULL COST OF THE REHABILITATION, REPARATION, OR**
20 **RESTORATION OF THE DAMAGE CAUSED BY ITS VIOLATION.**

21 **SEC. 2. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.***—The Secretary of the Department of
22 Environment and Natural Resources shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the
23 effective implementation of this Act.

24 **SEC. 3. . *Repealing Clause.***— All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, or other
25 issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed.

26 **SEC. 4. *Separability Clause.***—Should any provision herein be declared unconstitutional,
27 the same shall not affect the validity of the other provisions of this Act.
28

1 **SEC. 5. *Effectivity.***—This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
2 Official Gazette in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,