CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES FIFTEENTH CONGRESS Second Regular Session

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## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## H. No. 5420

BY REPRESENTATIVES MENDOZA (J.), MATUGAS AND PANOTES, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1490

AN ACT REINSTATING THE ORIGINAL AREA OF THE HISTORICAL BIAK-NA-BATO NATIONAL PARK (BNBNP) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN MIGUEL, PROVINCE OF BULACAN, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NOS. 401 AND 2204 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Reinstatement of the Original Area of the Biak-na-Bato 1 National Park. - The Biak-na-Bato National Park (BNBNP) is hereby 2 reinstated to its original area, comprising of two thousand one hundred 3 4 seventeen (2,117) hectares as first defined and fixed by then President Manuel L. Quezon by virtue of Presidential Proclamation No. 223, covering barangays 5 Sibul and Biak-na-Bato of the Municipality of San Miguel and Barangay 6 Kalawakan of the Municipality of Doña Remedios Trinidad, Province of 7 8 Bulacan.

SEC. 2. Protection of the Biak-na-Bato National Park. — As a national park, the entire area of two thousand one hundred seventeen (2,117) hectares of the BNBNP shall be governed by the provisions of Republic Act No. 7568,

- otherwise known as the "National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 1992".
- 3 SEC. 3. Prohibited Acts. The following acts shall be prohibited within the BNBNP:
  - (a) Exploring and extracting mineral resources;
  - (b) Cutting, gathering, removing or collecting timber or any forest product without the necessary permit, authorization or exemption issued by the concerned government agency;
  - (c) Hunting, taking, disturbing or possessing flora and fauna or products derived therefrom;
  - (d) Putting up any kind of permanent or temporary structure, which does not contribute to the preservation and protection of the park;
  - (e) Engaging in kaingin or slash-and-burn farming or any activity that causes forest fire;
    - (f) Vandalizing any part of the park; and
- (g) Committing any other similar acts.

- SEC. 4. *Penal Provision*. A fine of not less than Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00) or imprisonment of not less than six (6) years but not more than twelve (12) years, or both, upon the discretion of the court, shall be imposed for acts committed in violation of paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of Section 3 hereof.
- A fine of not less than Twenty thousand pesos (P20,000.00) or imprisonment of not less than four (4) years but not more than six (6) years, or both, upon the discretion of the court, and the restoration and rehabilitation of the area, shall be imposed for acts committed in violation of paragraphs (d), (e), (f) and (g) of Section 3 hereof.

SEC. 5. Separability Clause If any provision of this Act shall be
declared invalid or held unconstitutional, the other parts or provisions hereo
which are not affected thereby shall continue to be valid and effective.
SEC. 6. Repealing Clause This Act repeals Presidential
Proclamation Nos. 401 and 2204. All other laws, presidential decrees,
executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations which are inconsistent
with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
SEC. 7. Effectivity This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.
Approved,