CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES FOURTEENTH CONGRESS Third Regular Session

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## **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

## H. No. 6796

By Representatives Rodriguez and Arroyo (I.), per Committee Report No. 2344

## AN ACT IMPOSING A LOGGING BAN IN CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY

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

SECTION 1. Statement of Policy. – 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. Towards this end, the State shall protect the people and the environment from the adverse effects of logging.

SEC. 2. Imposition of a Logging Ban in Cagayan de Oro City. – A logging ban is hereby imposed within the territorial jurisdiction of Cagayan de Oro City.

For the purpose of this Act, logging shall refer to the process, work or business of cutting down trees for commercial purposes: *Provided*, That the harvesting of planted species within tree plantations in public and private lands and the necessary clearing or tree-cutting activities related to projects approved by the government and only for basic services such as, but not limited to, energy and power development, public works or water utilities are exempted from the coverage of this Act: *Provided*, *however*, That any such harvesting or cutting of tree species shall comply with all pertinent forestry and

1	environmental laws such as, but not limited to, Presidential Decree No. 705
2	(Forestry Reform Code of the Philippines, as amended), Presidential Decree

No. 1586 (Establishing an Environmental Impact Statement System) and other

4 laws and applicable rules and regulations.

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- SEC. 3. Penal Provision. Any person, employer or employment agency who shall violate the provisions of this Act shall be penalized with imprisonment of at least six (6) years but not more than twelve (12) years and a fine of at least One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) but not more than Five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00). If the violator is a corporation or association, the president and the manager/s of the said corporation or association, or its agent or representative in the Philippines, in the case of a foreign corporation or association, shall be held liable.
- SEC. 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* The Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources shall, within three (3) months following the effectivity of this Act, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for its effective implementation.
- SEC. 5. Separability Clause. If any portion or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.
- SEC. 6. Repealing Clause. All laws, orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
- SEC. 7. Effectivity Clause. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,