



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 5799

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BY REPRESENTATIVES VILLARICA, TY AND BRAVO (M.), PER COMMITTEE  
REPORT NO. 283

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AN ACT REVERTING FISH PONDS WHICH HAVE BEEN UNUTILIZED  
OR ABANDONED FOR A PERIOD OF THREE (3) YEARS TO  
FORESTLANDS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 43  
OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 705, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS  
THE REVISED FORESTRY REFORM CODE OF THE  
PHILIPPINES

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

1           SECTION 1. Section 43 of Presidential Decree No. 705, otherwise  
2 known as "The Revised Forestry Reform Code of the Philippines", is hereby  
3 amended to read as follows:

4                   "SEC. 43. Swamplands and Mangrove Forests. - x x x  
5                   "Mangrove and other swamps released to the Bureau of  
6 Fisheries and Aquatic Resources for fishpond purposes which  
7 are not utilized, or which have been abandoned for [five (5)]  
8 THREE (3) years from the date of such release shall revert to the  
9 category of forest land AND SHALL BE IMMEDIATELY  
10 REHABILITATED AND REFORESTED.

11                   "THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND THE  
12 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

1 SHALL JOINTLY SET JOINT GUIDELINES FOR DETERMINING  
2 ABANDONED, UNDEVELOPED OR UNDERUTILIZED FISHPONDS  
3 COVERED BY FISHPOND LEASE AGREEMENTS (FLAs) WHICH  
4 SHALL BE REVERTED INTO FORESTLAND AND  
5 REHABILITATED.”

6 SEC. 2. If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the  
7 same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions hereof.

8 SEC. 3. All laws, decrees, executive orders, issuances, rules and  
9 regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or  
10 modified accordingly.

11 SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication  
12 in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

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