



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 5900

BY REPRESENTATIVES PADILLA, PALMONES AND CASIÑO

AN ACT DECLARING THE PROVINCE OF NUEVA VIZCAYA A MINING FREE ZONE AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF

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

1 SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy.* – The Province of Nueva Vizcaya
2 is hereby declared a mining free zone and all mining operations in the
3 Province of Nueva Vizcaya are hereby prohibited.

4 SEC. 2. *Coverage.* – As used in this Act, mining shall refer to the
5 extraction of valuable minerals or other geological materials, excluding gravel
6 and sand marble. This shall include large-scale and small-scale mining
7 activities involving exploration, feasibility, development, utilization and
8 processing.

9 SEC. 3. *Penal Provision.* – It shall be unlawful for any person to mine
10 or continue to mine or engage in any mining operation in the Province of
11 Nueva Vizcaya.

1 Any person found guilty violating the provisions of this Act shall be
2 penalized with an imprisonment of at least six (6) years but not more than
3 twelve (12) years and a fine of at least One hundred thousand pesos
4 (P100,000.00) but not more than Five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00).

5 If the offender is a corporation, firm, partnership or association, the
6 penalty shall be imposed upon the officer or officers of the corporation, firm,
7 partnership or association responsible for the violation thereof.

8 If the offender is an alien, after service of sentence and payment of fine,
9 he/she will be deported immediately without further proceedings.

10 SEC. 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within three (3)
11 months following the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the Department of
12 Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) shall promulgate the necessary
13 rules and regulations for its effective implementation.

14 SEC. 5. *Transitory Provision.* – Upon approval of this Act, the
15 Provincial Government of Nueva Vizcaya, in coordination with the DENR,
16 shall review the contracts and agreements entered into by all existing mining
17 operations and those to be terminated and those to be allowed to continue until
18 such period that their contracts or agreements may allow.

19 SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and
20 regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are
21 hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

22 SEC. 7. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
23 following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,