



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 6679

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BY REPRESENTATIVES EVARDONE, MATUGAS, PALMONES AND CASIÑO, PER  
COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 2461

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### AN ACT DECLARING THE PROVINCE OF EASTERN SAMAR 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. *Title.* – The Province of Eastern Samar is hereby declared  
2 a mining-free zone and all mining operations in the province are hereby  
3 prohibited.

4           As used in this Act, mining operations shall be understood in the sense  
5 used under existing mining laws, and shall apply whether the same is  
6 conducted in a small scale or otherwise: *Provided, however,* That this Act  
7 shall not operate against legitimate quarrying and/or sand and gravel activities  
8 in the Province of Eastern Samar.

9           SEC. 2. It shall be unlawful for any person to conduct mining  
10 operations in the Province of Eastern Samar. Any person found guilty  
11 violating the provisions of this Act shall be penalized with imprisonment of at  
12 least six (6) years but not more than twelve (12) years and a fine of at least

1 Two hundred thousand pesos (P200,000.00) but not more than Five hundred  
2 thousand pesos (P500,000.00).

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

6 If the offender is an alien, after service of sentence and payment of fine,  
7 he will be deported immediately without further proceedings.

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

12 SEC. 4. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees or  
13 issuances, executive orders, letters of instruction, administrative orders, rules  
14 or regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are  
15 hereby repealed.

16 SEC. 5. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)  
17 days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general  
18 circulation in the Philippines, whichever comes earlier.

Approved,

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