



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 5845

BY REPRESENTATIVES VILLARICA AND MATUGAS, PER COMMITTEE REPORT
No. 764

AN ACT REVERTING FISH PONDS WHICH HAVE BEEN UNUTILIZED
OR ABANDONED FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS TO
FORESTLANDS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION
43 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 705, OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS THE "REVISED FORESTRY 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 Code of the Philippines" is hereby amended to
3 read as follows:

4 "SECTION 43. *Swamplands and mangrove forests.*

5 "x x x

6 " Mangrove and other swamps released to the Bureau of
7 Fisheries and Aquatic Resources for fishpond purposes which
8 are not utilized, or which have been abandoned for [five (5)]
9 THREE (3) years from the date of such release shall revert to the
10 category of forest land **FOR IMMEDIATE REHABILITATION AND**
11 **REFORESTATION.**

1 **“THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND THE**
2 **DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**
3 **SHALL DETERMINE, IN A SET OF JOINT GUIDELINES,**
4 **ABANDONED, UNDEVELOPED OR UNDERUTILIZED FISHPONDS**
5 **COVERED BY FISHPOND LEASE AGREEMENTS (FLAS).”**

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9 regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or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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