



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**H. No. 7435**

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BY REPRESENTATIVES ERIGUEL, TY, MANGAOANG, PADUANO, MATUGAS, DEFENSOR, RAMIREZ-SATO, ACOSTA, AGGABAO, UNABIA, VELOSO, TEJADA, BRAVO (M.V.), SALON, UNICO, ACOSTA-ALBA, ROCAMORA, SACDALAN, BATOCABE, BATAOIL AND COSALAN, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 678

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AN ACT RECLASSIFYING CERTAIN PUBLIC LANDS WITHIN THE STRIP OF LAND FIVE (5) KILOMETERS FROM EITHER SIDE OF THE ASPIRAS HIGHWAY, FORMERLY KNOWN AS MARCOS HIGHWAY, FROM AGOO, PROVINCE OF LA UNION TO TUBA, PROVINCE OF BENGUET COVERED BY PROCLAMATION NO. 1754 AS ALIENABLE AND DISPOSABLE LANDS

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

1           SECTION 1. *Reclassification of Certain Public Lands.* – The  
2 existing built-up and populated areas and the agricultural  
3 lands identified by the Department of Environment and  
4 Natural Resources (DENR) within the strip of land five (5)  
5 kilometers from either side of the Aspiras Highway, formerly  
6 known as Marcos Highway, from Agoo, La Union to Tuba,  
7 Benguet covered by Proclamation No. 1754 are hereby reclassified  
8 as alienable and disposable lands.

1           SEC. 2. *Specific Forest Limits.* – Immediately upon the  
2 effectivity of this Act, the DENR shall undertake the actual  
3 ground survey and verification of the specific forest limits using as  
4 basis all existing land classification (LC) maps, the latest forest  
5 cover data of the National Mapping and Resource Information  
6 Authority (NAMRIA) from its satellite imagery interpretations, and  
7 other available and reliable sources of information: *Provided, That*  
8 the area originally classified as timberland per LC Map  
9 No. 1392 shall be retained and shall be subject to a joint validation  
10 and redefinition of boundary by the DENR: *Provided, further,*  
11 That existing built-up and populated areas and the areas identified  
12 as agricultural lands within the coverage of Proclamation No. 1754  
13 shall be subject to assessment and ground survey by the DENR  
14 in accordance with existing laws and rules and regulations:  
15 *Provided, finally,* That areas situated within the geohazard zones as  
16 determined by the DENR and the concerned local government units  
17 (LGUs) shall be excluded from the coverage of this Act.

18           SEC. 3. *Status of National Parks, Mineral Lands and Other*  
19 *Public Reservations.* – The land classification of proclaimed  
20 national parks, protected areas, mineral lands, the status of civil  
21 reservations, military reservations, and other reservations for  
22 public and quasi-public uses within the herein reclassified lands  
23 shall not be affected by this Act.

24           SEC. 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within  
25 ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DENR  
26 shall, in consultation with the Provincial Governments of La  
27 Union and Benguet and the affected municipalities, issue the

1 corresponding implementing rules and regulations (IRR) for the  
2 effective implementation of this Act.

3       SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, proclamations,  
4 letters of instruction, executive orders, rules and regulations, and  
5 other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are  
6 hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

7       SEC. 6. *Separability Clause.* – If any portion of this Act is  
8 declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity  
9 and effectivity of the other provisions not affected thereby.

10       SEC. 7. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)  
11 days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper  
12 of general circulation.

Approved,

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