



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 5370

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BY REPRESENTATIVES SOLIS, BANAAG, MITRA, MERCADO, LAGBAS, OLAÑO  
AND MANDANAS, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1607

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AN ACT DECLARING THE TACDOGAN REEF IN THE MIDDLE OF  
TICAO PASS, LOCATED IN THE WATERS BETWEEN THE  
PROVINCES OF SORSOGON AND MASBATE, A NATIONAL  
PARK TO BE KNOWN AS THE TACDOGAN REEF NATIONAL  
MARINE PARK

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

1           SECTION 1. The Tacdogan Reef in the middle of Ticao Pass, located in  
2 the waters between the provinces of Sorsogon and Masbate, is hereby declared  
3 a national park to be known as the Tacdogan Reef National Marine Park.

4           SEC. 2. To ensure the conservation and preservation of the natural  
5 resources and marine biodiversity in the area, the following acts are prohibited  
6 within the Tacdogan Reef National Marine Park:

7           (a) Hunting, destroying, disturbing or mere possession of any marine  
8 resources or products derived therefrom without a permit;

1 (b) Dumping or otherwise disposing of any waste products detrimental  
2 to the area or to plants, animals or inhabitants therein;

3 (c) Use of any motorized equipment therein without a permit;

4 (d) Mutilating, defacing or destroying objects of natural beauty or  
5 ecological importance;

6 (e) Mineral or energy exploration or any entry into the area which has a  
7 tendency to damage its ecological balance;

8 (f) Constructing or maintaining any kind of structure, fence or  
9 enclosures and conducting any business enterprise without a permit;

10 (g) Altering, removing, destroying or defacing boundary marks of  
11 buoys; and

12 (h) Performing any other act analogous to the foregoing.

13 SEC. 3. Any person found guilty of any of the offenses enumerated  
14 above shall be punished with a fine of not less than Five thousand pesos  
15 (P5,000.00) but not more than Five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00)  
16 exclusive of the value of the things or objects damaged, or imprisonment of not  
17 less than one year but not more than six years, or both fine and imprisonment,  
18 as determined by the court: *Provided*, That the prohibited acts mentioned in  
19 Section 2 hereof shall be punished with the penalties imposed under Article  
20 309 and Article 310 of the Revised Penal Code: *Provided, moreover*, That if  
21 any area within the Tacdogan Reef National Marine Park shall require

1 rehabilitation and restoration as determined by the court, the offender shall be  
2 required to restore or compensate for the restoration of the damage. The court  
3 shall likewise order the forfeiture of all mineral, flora or fauna collected or  
4 removed, including all equipment, vessel, devices and firearms used in  
5 connection therewith, and any construction or improvement made thereon by  
6 the offender. If the offender is an association or corporation, the president or  
7 manager shall be responsible for the act of his/her employees and laborers.

8 SEC. 4. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
9 (DENR), in coordination with the Department of Agriculture (DA), the  
10 Provincial Government of Masbate, the Provincial Government of Sorsogon,  
11 the Municipal Government of San Jacinto, Masbate and other concerned  
12 government agencies shall establish the boundaries of the marine park whose  
13 technical description shall be incorporated in the rules and regulations of this  
14 Act.

15 SEC. 5. Within six months following the effectivity of this Act, the  
16 Secretary of the DENR shall promulgate the implementing rules and  
17 regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

18 SEC. 6. If any part of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional, such  
19 declaration shall not affect the other parts or sections hereof.

1           SEC. 7. All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders and rules and  
2 regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act shall be deemed  
3 repealed or modified accordingly.

4           SEC. 8. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication  
5 in the *Official Gazette* or in two newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

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