

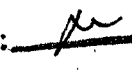
THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE }
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES }
First Regular Session

SENATE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

'04 JUN 30 P11:16

SENATE

S. No. 801

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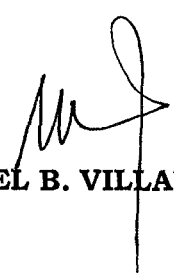
INTRODUCED BY HON. MANUEL B. VILLAR, JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is not uncommon to hear news of foreign nationals illegally entering our national territory to poach in our waters in clear violation of our Fisheries Code.

This bill proposes to amend Section 87 of the Fisheries Code by making full payment of all fines imposed a prerequisite to release from prison of those charged with the violation of the law.

Early passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


MANUEL B. VILLAR, JR.

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AN ACT

**AMENDING SEC. 87 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8550, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
PHILIPPINE FISHERIES CODE OF 1998 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

SECTION 1. Republic Act No. 8550, otherwise known as "The Philippine
Fisheries Code of 1998", is hereby amended to read as follows:

" Sec. 87. *Poaching in Philippine Waters.* It shall be unlawful for
any foreign person, corporation or entity to fish or operate any fishing
vessel in Philippine waters.

The entry of any foreign fishing vessel in Philippine waters shall
constitute a *prima facie* evidence that the vessel is engaged in fishing in
Philippine waters.

Violation of the above shall be punished by a fine of One hundred
thousand U.S. Dollars (US\$100,000.00), in addition to the confiscation of
its catch, fishing equipment and fishing vessel: *Provided*, That the
Department is empowered to impose an administrative fine of not less
than Fifty thousand U.S. Dollars (US\$50,000.00) but not more than Two
hundred thousand US Dollar (US\$200,000.00) or its equivalent in the
Philippine Currency: PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT NO PERSON
CHARGED WITH VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE RELEASED
FROM PRISON UNTIL AFTER ALL FINES IMPOSED ARE FULLY PAID.

SECTION 2. Any laws, decrees, rules and regulations inconsistent herewith is
repealed or amended accordingly.

SECTION 3. This law shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete.
publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,