

13<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

04 JUN 30 PM 1:15

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: *[Signature]*

S. No. 1150

---

*Introduced by Senator Aquilino Q. Pimentel, Jr.*

---

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Our forests are at the mercy of those who rape the environment by engaging in illegal logging activities to satisfy selfish commercial motives. Some government officials who are supposed to lead the crusade to protect the environment abet this revolting practice. Worse, a big portion of funds earmarked for the reforestation program of the government goes to the pockets of unscrupulous individuals.

The elimination of our forest cover has caused the erosion of the area's fragile topsoil destroying rich agricultural land and even fishing grounds. The siltation of riverbeds, irrigation canals and estuaries eventually follow. This destroys the marine ecosystem when coral reefs are covered by siltation caused by soil erosion. These misfortunes would have been avoided had the forests been protected from illegal logging.

In order to save our remaining forests and to ensure the successful reforestation of the badly denuded areas, Congress should impose a total log ban in forests, timberland, forest reserves and watersheds for the next twenty-five (25) years.

In view of the urgent need to stop the rapid deforestation of our forests, the immediate approval of this Act is therefore requested.

*[Signature]*  
AQUILINO Q. PIMENTEL, JR.



but not more than ten (10) years also at the discretion of the Court. Aliens who violate this law shall be deported after their sentences shall have been served.

**SECTION 4. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect upon its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of national circulation.

**Approved,**