



S E N A T E

S. No. 1978

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INTRODUCED BY SENATORS VILLAR, BINAY AND ZUBIRI

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AN ACT DECLARING THE PROVINCE OF  
CATANDUANES AS THE ABACA CAPITAL OF  
THE PHILIPPINES

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

1           SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy.* – Section 1, Article  
2   XII of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall  
3   promote the industrialization and full employment based  
4   on sound agricultural development and agrarian reform,  
5   through industries that make full and efficient use of  
6   human and natural resources, which are competitive in  
7   both domestic and foreign markets.

8           Towards this end, the State hereby recognizes the  
9   importance of abaca industry and its development as a  
10   driver of rural development not only because of its singular

1 potential as a raw material that can increase the country's  
2 export earnings tremendously, and put the name of the  
3 country in the map of the world for producing the biggest  
4 volume of abaca fiber, but for having provided livelihood to  
5 many small farmers in the countryside.

6       SEC. 2. *Abaca Capital of the Philippines.* – In  
7 recognition of its status as the country's biggest producer of  
8 abaca and making the Philippines world renowned as  
9 "Manila Hemp" in the fiber industry, and in support to  
10 agricultural development of the province, it is hereby  
11 declared that Catanduanes be the Abaca Capital of the  
12 Philippines.

13       SEC. 3. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential  
14 decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction,  
15 rule or regulation inconsistent or contrary to the provisions  
16 of this Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

17       SEC. 4. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen  
18 (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in  
19 at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,