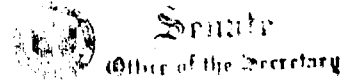


**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS** )  
**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES** )  
First Regular Session )



16 JUL 18 P5 59

**SENATE**

**S.B. No. 382**

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Introduced by SENATOR LOREN LEGARDA**

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**AN ACT TOTALLY BANNING LOGGING OPERATIONS FOR THE NEXT TWENTY-FIVE YEARS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Explanatory Note

This bill seeks to prohibit logging operations of any kind in any forest, timber land, forest reserve, or watershed for the next twenty-five (25) years.

Deforestation is the conversion of forested areas to non-forest land use such as arable land, urban use, logged area or wasteland. Historically, this meant conversion to grassland or to its artificial counterpart, grainfields; however, the industrial revolution added urbanization. Generally, this removal or destruction of significant areas of forest cover has resulted in a degraded environment with reduced biodiversity. In developing countries, massive deforestation is ongoing and is shaping climate and geography.

In the Philippines, forest resources have continued to dissipate through the years. The country's forest cover now stands at 7 million hectares, as compared to the 30 million hectares that it used to have.

There is an urgent need to stop deforestation in the country, which from 1990 until 2000, was at the rate of 1.4%, the highest among the Southeast Asian nations. The benefits of ensuring the sustainable growth and development of our forest resource and the richness of our biodiversity are boundless and cannot be offset by commercial progress.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

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**LOREN LEGARDA**  
Senator

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
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16 JUL 18 P5 59

SENATE

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

1 **SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy.** - It is hereby declared a policy of the  
2 State to "protect and promote the right of the people to a balanced and  
3 healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.  
4

5 **SEC. 2. Prohibited Acts.** - It shall be unlawful for any person to cut, fell or  
6 destroy any tree standing on any forest, timber land, forest reserve or  
7 watershed within the next twenty-five (25) years from the approval of this  
8 Act. This prohibition shall not apply to trees grown in legitimate commercial  
9 tree farms.  
10

11 **SEC. 3. Penalties.** - Any person who violates this Act shall be punished by  
12 imprisonment of not less than five (5) years but not more than ten (10)  
13 years. Any juridical entity that violates this Act shall forfeit its license or  
14 permit to do business in the Philippines. In addition, it shall be made to pay  
15 a fine of not less than Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php500,000.00) but  
16 not more than Five Million Pesos (Php5,000,000.00) at the discretion of the  
17 Court. The Chairman and/or the Chief Executive Officer or any other officer  
18 of the company responsible for the violation of this Act shall be imprisoned  
19 for a period of not less than five (5) years but not more than ten (10) years  
20 also at the discretion of the Court. Aliens who violate this law shall be  
21 deported after their sentences shall have been served.  
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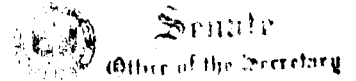
23 **SEC. 4. Separability Clause.** - If any provision of this Act is declared  
24 invalid, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall  
25 remain in full force and effect.  
26

27 **SEC. 5. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders  
28 and their implementing rules, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act,  
29 are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.  
30

31 **SEC. 6. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
32 publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.  
33  
34

35 Approved,

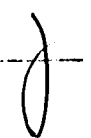
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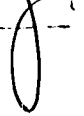
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Senator

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