

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

16 JUL 19 A11 :42

#### SENATE

# <sub>S. No.</sub> 492

#### Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

#### AN ACT

### INCREASING THE PENALTY IMPOSED AGAINST POLLUTERS OF NAVIGABLE WATERS BY AMENDING SECTION 7 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 979 PROVIDING FOR THE REVISION OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 600 GOVERNING MARINE POLLUTION

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Presidential Decree No. 979 states that it is the policy of the state to prevent and control the pollution of seas caused by the dropping of wastes and other matter which create hazards to human health, harm living resources and marine life, damage amenities, or interfere with the legitimate uses of the sea within the territorial jurisdiction of the Philippines.

It is only just and imperative to provide stiffer civil and criminal penalties against polluters of our marine environment considering our dependence on the sea and other bodies of water for our transportation, livelihood and other related industries.

This bill simply seeks to increase the penalties being imposed and provided for under the present law to a fine of not less than Five Million Pesos (P 5,000,000.00) or imprisonment of not less than 8 years and 1 day nor more than 12 years, or both such fine and imprisonment.

The immediate passage of this bill is earnestly recommended.

ANES IV



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

SECTION 1. Section of Presidential Decree No. 979 is hereby amended to read as
 follows:

3

4 "SECTION 7. Penalties for Violations. - Any person who violates Section 4 of this Decree or any regulations prescribed in pursuance thereof, 5 6 shall be liable for a fine of not less than [Two hundred pesos nor more than Ten thousand pesos] FIVE MILLION PESOS or by imprisonment of not less 7 8 than [thirty days] EIGHT YEARS AND ONE DAY nor more than [one year] 9 TWELVE YEARS or both such fine and imprisonment, for each offense, without prejudice to the civil liability of the offender in accordance with 10 existing laws. 11

12

Any vessel from which oil or other harmful substances are discharged in violation of Section 4 or any regulation prescribed in pursuance thereof, shall be liable for the penalty of fine specified in this section, and clearance of such vessel from the port of the Philippines may be withheld until the fine is paid.

In addition to the penalties above prescribed, the Philippine Coast
Guard shall provide in its rules and regulations such reasonable administrative

| 1  | penalties as may be necessary for the effective implementation of this                        |
|----|---|
| 2  | Decree."  |
| 3  |   |
| 4  | SEC. 2. Separability Clause If any provision or part of this Act is declared invalid          |
| 5  | or unconstitutional, other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to |
| 6  | be in full force and effect.  |
| 7  |   |
| 8  | SEC. 3. Repealing Clause All provisions of laws, orders, decrees, including rules             |
| 9  | and regulations inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.            |
| 10 |   |
| 11 | SEC. 4. Effectivity This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its                |
| 12 | publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general     |
| 13 | circulation.  |

### Approved,