



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Committee on Natural Resources

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18 August 2023

ATTY. JONAS R. LEONES, CESO I

Undersecretary for Policy, Planning, and International Affairs
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
DENR Bldg. Visayas Avenue, Diliman,
Quezon City

Dear Undersecretary Leones:

The Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives will be holding a face-to-face Committee Meeting on **6 September 2023 (Wednesday), 10:30 in the morning at Andaya Hall, House of Representatives.**

In light of this, we would like to invite you or your authorized representative to attend the said meeting and shed light on the following:

PART I

Consideration of Draft Substitute Bill for the Kalayaan Island Group and Scarborough Shoal Marine Protected Area Bills:

1. House Bill No. 6373, entitled "An Act Declaring The Three (3) Nautical Miles Surrounding The Kalayaan Island Group And Scarborough Shoal In The West Philippine Sea As Marine Protected Area Under Republic Act No. 7586 Or The National Integrated Protected Areas System Act Of 1992, As Amended By Republic Act No. 11038, Or The Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System Act Of 2018", authored by Rep. Edward S. Hagedorn; and
2. House Bill No. 8371, entitled "An Act Declaring The Three (3) Nautical Miles Surrounding The Kalayaan Island Group And Scarborough Shoal In The West Philippine Sea As Marine Protected Area Under Republic Act No. 7586 Or The National Integrated Protected Areas System Act Of 1992, As Amended By Republic Act No. 11038, Or The Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System Act Of 2018", authored by Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez

PART II

Inquiries in Aid of Legislation

1. Continuation of the inquiry:

House Resolution No. 778, entitled "A Resolution Urging The House Committee On Natural Resources To Conduct An Inquiry, In Aid Of Legislation, Into The Gaps And Inconsistencies Of Land Use And Environmental Management Laws And Subsequent Misuse And Abuse, Leading To Gross Soil, Water And Air Pollution In

Forestlands, Watershed And Buffer Zones In The Municipality Of Palompon, Province of Leyte”, authored by Rep. Richard I. Gomez, DPA

2. Initial consideration:

House Resolution No. 947, entitled “A Resolution Directing The Appropriate Committee/S Of The House Of Representatives To Conduct An Inquiry, In Aid Of Legislation And In The Exercise Of Its Legislative Powers And Oversight Functions, On The Implementation Of Executive Order No. 130 S. 2021 And Administrative Order No. 2021-25 Entitled “Amending Section 4 Of Executive Order No. 79, S. 2012, Institutionalizing And Implementing Reforms In The Philippine Mining Sector, Providing Policies And Guidelines To Ensure Environmental Protection And Responsible Mining In The Utilization Of Mineral Resources”, authored by Rep. Rodante D. Marcoleta.

We would like to request the submission of your **position paper** on the aforementioned measures, or a draft thereof, on or before **1 September 2023**, in order to give the Committee Members enough time to read through the materials. Attached herewith are the subject measures, for your kind reference.

For confirmation of attendance or further inquiries, the Committee may be reached at committee.naturalresources@house.gov.ph. We are looking forward to having a fruitful discussion with you on the said measures. Thank you very much!

Very truly yours,



HON. ELPIDIO F. BARZAGA JR.

Chairperson

Committee on Natural Resources