

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1423



Introduced by **Pangasinan Fifth District Representative**
HON. RAMON N. GUICO JR.

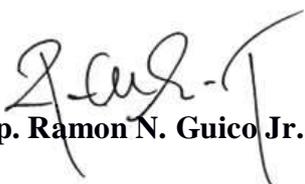
EXPLANATORY NOTE

This measure seeks to increase the fines imposed per violation of Presidential Decree No. 1586 from 50,000 Pesos to not less than 500,000 Pesos, including the imposition of the legal responsibility of rehabilitating, restoring, and paying reparations for critically endangered areas destroyed by these violations to the companies responsible for such unlawful acts.

P.D. 1586, which established the Environmental Impact Statement System has, since 1978, ensured that the “exigencies of socio-economic undertakings can be reconciled with the requirements of environmental quality.” However, after more than two decades, the penalties stipulated on the same need to be escalated, lest we risk the continued flouting of our environmental laws by mega-corporations whose greed knows not of sustainable development.

Presently, the fine of 50,000 pesos could be written off by large companies as negligible losses compared to the millions, even billions of Pesos they rake in profiting from the wanton exploitation of our country’s natural resources. The penalties stipulated in law, therefore, must become more severe in order to protect the integrity of our natural environment and ultimately, the interest of our people and their posterity.

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


Rep. Ramon N. Guico Jr.

1 UNDER OTHER SPECIAL LAWS, ANY PERSON, PARTNERSHIP OR
2 CORPORATION FOUND VIOLATING SECTION 4 OF THIS DECREE OR THE
3 TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE
4 CERTIFICATE SHALL BE OBLIGED TO SHOULDER THE FULL COST OF THE
5 REHABILITATION, REPARATION, OR RESTORATION OF THE DAMAGE
6 CAUSED BY ITS VIOLATION.

7
8 **SEC. 2. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.***—The Secretary of the Department of
9 Environment and Natural Resources shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the
10 effective implementation of this Act.

11
12 **SEC. 3. . *Repealing Clause.***— All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, or other
13 issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed.

14
15 **SEC. 4. *Appropriations.***— ***Separability Clause.***—Should any provision herein be declared
16 unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity of the other provisions of this Act.

17
18 **SEC. 5. *Effectivity.***—This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
19 Official Gazette in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,