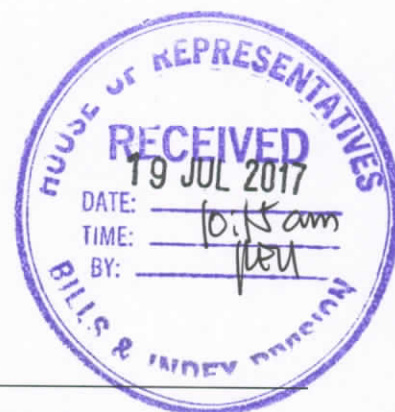


Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session



COMMITTEE REPORT NO. **320**

Submitted by the Committee on Natural Resources on **19 JUL 2017**

Re: House Bill No. **6011**

Recommending its approval, in substitution of House Bill No. 2852

Sponsors: Representatives Arnel U. Ty and Jose I. Tejada

**Mr. Speaker:**

The Committee on Natural Resources, to which was referred House Bill No. 2852, introduced by Representative Tejada, entitled:


**AN ACT**  
**DECLARING THE PROVINCE OF NORTH COTABATO A MINING**  
**FREE ZONE AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION**  
**THEREOF**

has considered the same and recommends that the attached House Bill No. **6011**, entitled:

**AN ACT**  
**DECLARING THE PROVINCE OF NORTH COTABATO A MINING-**  
**FREE ZONE AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION**  
**THEREOF**

be approved in substitution of House Bill No. 2852, with Representatives Tejada and Ty as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

  
**HON. ARNEL U. TY**  
Chairman  
Committee on Natural Resources

**THE HONORABLE SPEAKER**  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 6011**  
(In substitution of HB No. 2852)

---

**REPRESENTATIVES JOSE "PINGPING" I. TEJADA, RAYMOND DEMOCRITO C. MENDOZA and ARNEL U. TY**

---

**AN ACT**  
**DECLARING THE PROVINCE OF NORTH COTABATO A MINING-FREE ZONE AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF**

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

1           SECTION 1. *Statement of Policy.* – It is the policy of the state to protect and advance the  
2 right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of  
3 nature. Towards this end, the State shall protect the people and the environment of its territories  
4 from the harmful effects of mining.

5           SECTION 2. *Declaration of North Cotabato as a Mining Free Zone.* – The Province of  
6 North Cotabato is hereby declared a mining-free zone. All forms of mining activity within its  
7 territorial jurisdiction are prohibited.

8           As used in this Act, mining shall refer to the extraction of valuable minerals or other  
9 geological materials from the earth and shall include such mining activities as exploration,  
10 feasibility, development, utilization and processing, whether large-scale or small-scale in nature:  
11 *Provided, however,* That the quarrying of gravel and sand for projects directly undertaken by  
12 agencies of the national government or by the city government for basic services such as roads and  
13 bridges, school buildings, water and energy utilities and similar public works, is exempted from  
14 the coverage of this Act, subject, however, to the requirements of existing mining and environment  
15 laws.

1           SECTION 3. **Penal Provision.** – Violation of this Act is punishable by not less than six (6)  
2 years but not more than twelve (12) years of imprisonment. Fines shall also be imposed in the  
3 amount of not less than One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) but not more than Five  
4 hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00).

5           If the violator is a corporation or association, the president and the manager of the  
6 corporation or association, or its agent or representative in the Philippines, in the case of foreign  
7 corporation or association, shall be directly held liable for the violation of this Act.

8           An alien offender, who has fully rendered the service of sentence and/or paid the fines  
9 imposed herein, shall be immediately deported.

10          SECTION 4. **Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within ninety (90) days from the  
11 approval of this Act, the Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
12 (DENR) shall formulate the necessary rules and regulations for its effective implementation.

13          SECTION 5. **Separability Clause.** – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared  
14 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or the provisions not affected thereby shall remain in  
15 force and effect.

16          SECTION 6. **Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts  
17 thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

18          SECTION 7. **Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication  
19 in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

20   Approved.