

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

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session



COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 382

Submitted by the Committee on Natural Resources on 14 SEP 2017
Re: House Bill No. 6405

Recommending its approval, in substitution of House Bill No. 5597
Sponsors: Representatives Arnel U. Ty and Gil P. Acosta

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Natural Resources, to which was referred House Bill No. 5597, introduced by Representative Acosta, entitled:

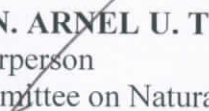
AN ACT
DECLARING THE THIRD DISTRICT OF PALAWAN AS A MINING FREE ZONE

has considered the same and recommends that the attached House Bill No. 6405, entitled:

AN ACT
DECLARING THE THIRD DISTRICT OF PALAWAN AS A MINING-FREE ZONE

be approved in substitution of House Bill No. 5597, with Representatives Acosta and Ty as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted,


HON. ARNEL U. TY
Chairperson
Committee on Natural Resources

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
House of Representatives
Quezon City

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

Seventeenth Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **6405**
(In substitution of House Bill no. 5597)

**Introduced by Representative Gil "Kabarangay" P. Acosta and
Arnel U. Ty**

**AN ACT DECLARING THE THIRD DISTRICT OF PALAWAN AS A MINING-
FREE ZONE**

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
2 the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and
3 harmony of nature. Towards this end, the State shall protect the people and the environment of
4 the Third District of Palawan composed of the City of Puerto Princesa and the Municipality of
5 Aborlan against the adverse effects of mining.

6 **SEC. 2. *Declaration of the Third District of Palawan as a Mining - Free Zone.*** – The
7 Third District of Palawan City composed of the City of Puerto Princesa and the Municipality
8 of Aborlan, is hereby declared as a mining-free zone; thereby all forms of mining activity
9 within its territorial jurisdiction are prohibited.

10 For the purpose of this Act, mining shall refer to the extraction of valuable minerals or
11 other geological materials, excluding gravel and sand and marble. This shall include large-scale
12 and small-scale mining activities involving exploration, feasibility, development, utilization
13 and processing.

14 **SEC. 3. *Penal Provisions.*** – Any person who violates any of the provisions of this Act
15 shall, upon conviction, be punished by imprisonment of not less than six (6) years and one (1)
16 day but not more than twelve (12) years or a fine of not less than One hundred thousand
17 (Php100,000.00) pesos but not more than Five hundred thousand (Php500,000.00) pesos, or
18 both, at the discretion of the court.

19 If the offense is committed by a corporation, partnership, association or any other
20 juridical entity, the penalty shall be imposed on the president, managing director, partner or
21 chief operating officer. The license to operate of the erring corporation, partnership, association

1 or any other juridical entity shall be cancelled and revoked permanently. The operator or owner
2 thereof shall not be allowed to operate similar establishments in a different name or in a
3 different location.

4 If the offender is a foreigner, the person shall after service of sentence or payment of
5 fine, be subject to deportation and permanently barred from entering the country.

6 **SEC. 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – The Secretary of the Department of
7 Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) shall formulate the necessary rules and
8 regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

9 **SEC. 5. *Separability Clause.*** – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared
10 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or the provisions not affected thereby shall remain
11 in force and effect.

12 **SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts
13 thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified
14 accordingly.

15 **SEC. 7. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its
16 publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

17 Approved,