

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

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session



**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 472**

Submitted by the Committee on Natural Resources on OCT 19 2017  
Re: House Bill No. 6625  
Recommending its approval, in substitution of House Bill No. 4577.  
Sponsors: Representatives Arnel U. Ty and Deogracias Victor B. Savellano

**Mr. Speaker:**

The Committee on Natural Resources, to which was referred House Bill No. 4577, introduced by Representatives Deogracias Victor B. Savellano and Maria Vida Espinosa Bravo, entitled:

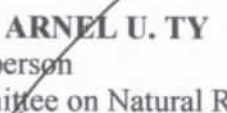
**AN ACT  
TO CLASSIFY BAMBOO AS AN UNREGULATED FOREST PRODUCT  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

has considered the same and recommends that the attached House Bill No. 6625,  
entitled:

**AN ACT  
CLASSIFYING BAMBOO AS AN UNREGULATED FOREST PRODUCT  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

be approved, in substitution of House Bill No. 4577, with Representatives Savellano, Bravo 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

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 6625**  
(In substitution of HB No. 4577)

---

Introduced by Reprs. **Deogracias Victor B. Savellano, Maria Vida Espinosa Bravo**  
**and Arnel U. Ty**

---

**AN ACT**  
**CLASSIFYING BAMBOO AS AN UNREGULATED FOREST PRODUCT**  
**AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

1           **SECTION 1. Title.** - This Act shall be known as the “Bamboo Deregulation Act”.

2           **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy** – It is the policy of the State to promote industries that  
3 utilize local resources for the creation of employment, generation of sustainable livelihood in  
4 rural communities to attain inclusive economic growth, contribute to the country’s gross  
5 domestic product, help mitigate and adapt to climate change and support sustainable  
6 environmental conservation and rehabilitation.

7           **SEC. 3. Objective** – It is the objective of this Act to promote the development of the  
8 Philippine bamboo industry by streamlining policies that constrain its growth, encourage  
9 investors to invest in the establishment of plantations and processing facilities and provide  
10 sustainable livelihood to communities in rural areas.

11           **SEC. 4. Deregulation of Bamboo** – Bamboo culms, whether planted or grown naturally  
12 in forest lands or in private lands, are hereby deregulated. The harvest and transport of bamboo  
13 culms shall no longer require any permit from any government agency.

14           **SEC. 5. Naturally Growing Bamboo in Forest Lands** –Concessions for the harvest of  
15 naturally growing bamboo in forest lands outside of tenured areas shall be granted by the  
16 Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to qualified applicants. Tenure  
17 holders of forest lands are authorized to harvest naturally growing bamboo within their tenured  
18 areas: *Provided*, That bamboo harvesting is made part of the tenure holder’s resource use or  
19 resource management plan.

1           **SEC. 6. *Incentives for Plantation Grown Bamboo*** – Bamboo plantations, in forest  
2 lands or in private lands shall be granted incentives provided under PD 705, Revising  
3 Presidential Decree No. 389, Otherwise Known as the “Forestry Reform Code of the  
4 Philippines,” for industrial tree plantations. They shall also be included in the Investments  
5 Priorities Plan (IPP) of the government.

6           **SEC 7. *Payment of Forest Charges*** – Naturally grown bamboo harvested from forest  
7 lands shall be assessed with the corresponding fees and charges as provided in Republic Act  
8 No. 7161, entitled, “An Act Incorporating Certain Sections of the National Internal Revenue  
9 Code of 1977, As Amended, To PD No. 705, As Amended, Otherwise Known as the “Revised  
10 Forestry Code Of The Philippines” And Providing Amendments Thereto By Increasing The  
11 Forest Charges On Timber and Other Forest Products”. Plantation grown bamboo in forest  
12 lands and in private lands shall be free from forest charges.

13           **SEC. 8. *Monitoring Bamboo in Forest and Private Lands***. For purposes of monitoring  
14 available bamboo resources and to ensure sustainability, the DENR shall devise a system for  
15 the inventory, reporting and survey of areas planted to bamboo in both public forests and  
16 private lands. For this purpose, DENR shall engage the local government units as well as the  
17 private sector and business organizations to ensure their participation in the protection and  
18 public information campaign on bamboo.

19           **SEC. 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations***. – Within sixty (60) days after the  
20 approval of this Act, the DENR, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and the  
21 Department of Finance (DOF) shall formulate the implementing rules and regulations of this  
22 Act.

23           **SEC. 10. *Separability Clause***. – If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or  
24 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain  
25 valid.

26           **SEC. 11. *Repealing Clause***. – All laws, executive orders and other issuances  
27 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

28           **SEC. 12. *Effectivity***. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication  
29 in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

30           *Approved,*

## **FACT SHEET**

**House Bill No. 4577**

**Classifying Bamboo as Unregulated Forest Product**

***Introduced by Rep. Deogracias Victor B. Savellano***

### **OBJECTIVES:**

- To promote the development of the Philippine bamboo industry by streamlining policies that constrain its growth
- To encourage farmers and investors to establish bamboo plantations and processing facilities
- To provide sustainable livelihood in the rural areas

### **KEY PROVISIONS:**

- Deregulates bamboo as a forest product
- Exempts the harvest and transport of bamboo from government permits
- Exempts plantation grown bamboo in forest lands and in private lands from forest charges.
- Grants concessions for the harvest of naturally growing bamboo in forest lands outside of tenured areas to qualified applicants.
- Grants incentives to bamboo plantations, in forest lands or in private lands and includes these in the Investments Priorities Plan (IPP) of the government.

### **RELATED LAWS:**

- Presidential Decree 705
- RA 7161