

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 371

Introduced by Hon. Ramon C. Nolasco, Jr.
First District Cagayan

RESOLUTION

URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THROUGH THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE DREDGING ACTIVITIES IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF APPARRI, CAGAYAN

WHEREAS, Article VI, Section 21 of the 1997 Constitution states: *"The Senate or the House of Representatives or any of its respective committees may conduct inquiries in aid of legislation in accordance with its duly published rules of procedure. The rights of persons appearing in, or affected by, such inquiries shall be respected."*

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 6 of the 1987 Constitution states: *"The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature."*

WHEREAS, Article XII, Section 2 of the 1987 Constitution states: *"All lands of the public domain, waters, minerals, coal, petroleum, and other mineral oils, all forces of potential energy, fisheries, forests or timber, wildlife, flora and fauna, and other natural resources are owned by the State. With the exception of agricultural lands, all other natural resources shall not be alienated. The exploration, development, and utilization of natural resources shall be under the full control and supervision of the State. The State may directly undertake such activities, or it may enter into co-production, joint venture, or production-sharing agreements with Filipino citizens, or corporations or associations at least sixty per centum of whose capital is owned by such citizens. xxx xxx xxx"*

WHEREAS, Title XIV, Book IV, Section 1 of the Administrative Code of 1987 provides: *"The State shall ensure, for the benefit of the Filipino people, the full exploration and development as well as the judicious disposition, utilization, management, renewal and conservation of the country's forest, mineral, land, waters, fisheries, wildlife, off-shore areas and other natural resources, consistent with the necessity of maintaining a sound ecological balance and protecting and enhancing the quality of the environment and the objective of making the exploration, development and utilization of such natural resources equitably accessible to the different segments of the present as well as future generations. The State shall likewise recognize and apply a true value system that takes into account social and environmental cost implications relative to the utilization, development and conservation of our natural resources."*

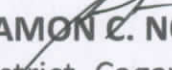
WHEREAS, the Court in the case of *Oposa vs. Factoran* (G.R. No. 101083) pronounced the concept of intergenerational responsibility where every generation has a responsibility to the next to preserve that rhythm and harmony of nature for the full enjoyment of a balanced and healthful ecology;

WHEREAS, there are alleged dredging activities in the delta of the Cagayan river at the Municipality of Aparri despite non-compliance to the requirements of the DPWH Department Order 139 and Joint Memorandum Circular for Dredging Activities by the DENR, DPWH, DILG and DoTR.

WHEREAS, GMA published a report about a dredging vessel that run aground in Aparri, Cagayan, and that the dredged materials are to be transported in Hong Kong.

WHEREAS, there is a need to investigate the alleged dredging activities in the Municipality of Aparri, Cagayan to determine the real nature and extent of the said activity, compliance with the law, and whether or not there is a need to amend existing laws or enact new ones appertaining to such activity.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives, that the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources be directed to conduct and investigation, in aid of legislation, on the dredging activities in the Municipality of Aparri, Cagayan.


REP. RAMON C. NOLASCO, JR.
First District, Cagayan