

# Republic of the Philippines

## Department of Environment and Natural Resources

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#### **MEMORANDUM**

**FOR** 

**The Bureau Directors** 

Land Management Bureau Forest Management Bureau Biodiversity Management Bureau

The Officer-In-Charge

Mines and Geosciences Bureau

The Administrator

National Mapping and Resource Information Authority

The Regional Executive Directors

Regions I, II, III, VII, VIII, X, XI, XIII, and CAR

FROM

The Director

Legislative Liaison Office

SUBJECT

FOLLOW-UP ON THE REQUEST FOR THE SUBMISSION OF TECHNICAL DESCRIPTIONS, AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS OR UPDATES ON VARIOUS LEGISLATIVE MEASURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES FROM THE HOUSE OF

**REPRESENTATIVES** 

DATE

07 September 2023

This refers to the electronic letter dated 15 August 2023 received by our Office, the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives has deliberated on, and approved, in principle, the reclassification of land and declaration of certain areas as protected areas on the following legislative measures:

- HOUSE BILL 2841 "An Act Reclassifying Certain Public Lands Within The Strip
  Of Land Five (5) Kilometers From Either Side Of The Aspiras Highway, From The
  Municipality Of Agoo, Province Of La Union To The Municipality Of Tuba, Province
  Of Benguet Covered By Proclamation No. 1754 As Alienable And Disposable
  Lands" by Rep. Dante S. Garcia;
- HOUSE BILL 95 "An Act Declaring As Agricultural Land Certain Parcels Of Land Of The Public Domain Situated Within The City Of Surigao, Province Of Surigao Del Norte" by Rep. Robert Ace S. Barbers;
- HOUSE BILL 435 "An Act To Reclassify A Developed Portion Of Forest Land Under Concession With Picop, Located In The City Of Bislig And The Municipalities Of Hinatuan, Lingig, And Tagbina, Province Of Surigao Del Sur. Into Alienable And Disposable Land Of The Public Domain For The Purpose Of Distributing The Same

- To Bona Fide And Long Term Farmers/Occupants Thereof, And For Other Purposes" by Rep. Johnny Ty Pimentel;
- HOUSE BILL 6373 "An Act Declaring The Three (3) Nautical Miles Surrounding The Kalayaan Island Group And Scarborough Shoal In The West Philippine Sea As Marine Protected Area Under Republic Act No. 7586 Or The National Integrated Protected Areas System Act Of 1992, As Amended By Republic Act No. 11038, Or The Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System Act Of 2018" by Rep. Edward S. Hagedorn;
- HOUSE BILL 901 "An Act Establishing The Forest Boundary Of The Province Of Tarlac" by Rep. Christian Tell A. Yap;
- HOUSE BILL 981 "An Act Repealing Presidential Proclamation No. 414" (Proposes to reclassify as alienable and open to disposition the 380 hectares of land in barangays Laokan Apugan, Atok Trail, and Kias, previously declared as mineral reservation, shall form part of the Baguio Townsite Reservation.) by Rep. Mark O. Go;
- **HOUSE BILL 982** "An Act Repealing Presidential Proclamation No. 572" by Rep. Mark O. Go;
- **HOUSE BILL 1821** "An Act Establishing The Final Forestland Boundary Of The Province Of Siquijor" by Rep. Zaldy S. Villa;
- HOUSE BILL 6616 "An Act Rationalizing The Management Of Natural Resources In The Camotes Islands, Province Of Cebu, Declaring Certain Lands Of The Public Domain As Agricultural Land Open To Disposition For Agricultural, Commercial, Residential, Industrial And For Other Purposes, Amending For The Purpose Proclamation No. 2152 Dated December 29, 1981, Entitled 'Declaring The Entire Province Of Palawan And Certain Parcels Of The Public Domain And/Or Parts Of The Country As Mangrove Swamp Forest Reserves" by Rep. Vincent Franco "Duke" D. Frasco;
- HOUSE BILL 3736 "An Act Declaring The Lands Within The Town Proper Of Silvino Lubos, Northern Samar And Its Adjacent Lands From Timberland To Alienable And Disposable Lands Open For Residential, Agricultural, Commercial, And Other Productive Purposes And Private Rights" by Rep. Harris Christopher M. Ongchuan;
- HOUSE BILL 3791 "An Act Declaring The Pantaron Mountain Range As A Protected Area Categorized As A National Park And Watershed, And Providing For Its Management And Administration" by Rep. Pantaleon D. Alvarez;
- HOUSE BILL 4214 "An Act Disestablishing The Lipatan-Liangan River Mangrove Swamp Forest Reserve As Protected Area, Amending For This Purpose Proclamation No. 2152 Series Of 1981" by Rep. Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo;
- HOUSE BILL 4404 "An Act Reclassifying And Converting Parcels Of Timberland Located In Barangays 1 And 2 (Poblacion), Bulawan, Caraycay, Libertad, Malobago, Maputi, San Roque, San Miguel In The Municipality Of Maslog And Small Portion In The Municipalities Of Arteche, Oras, And Dolores In The Province Of Eastern Samar, As Alienable And Disposable Lands" by Rep. Maria Fe R. Abunda;

• HOUSE BILL 4419 – "An Act To Convert Barangay Itbud, Municipality Of Uyugan, Province Of Batanes, From Its Present Classification As National Park To An Alienable And Disposable Residential Land/Site" by Rep. Ciriaco B. Gato Jr.;

In this regard, may we respectfully follow-up on the request the **Technical Descriptions** (TDs) and other requirements or updates from your office on the abovementioned matter, in preparation for the Committee Report for the said measures, as requested by the Committee. Kindly send them on or before 12 September 2023, at 5 PM via email at <a href="mailto:denr.gov.ph">denr.gov.ph</a>. Further, the abovementioned letter and House Bills can be accessed through this link <a href="mailto:https://bit.ly/45582wS">https://bit.ly/45582wS</a> for your perusal and reference.

For information and appropriate action, please.



cc: Undersecretary for Special Concerns and Legislative Affairs

☑Committee Affairs Department,3/F Speaker Ramon V. Mitra Building, Batasan Complex, Quezon City ☎ +63 (2) 8931-5001 local 7161; Telefax: +63(2) 8951-3003 committee.naturalresources@house.gov.ph, naturalresources.hrep@gmail.com

15 August 2023

## ATTY. JONAS R. LEONES, CESO I

Undersecretary for Policy, Planning, and International Affairs
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
DENR Bldg. Visayas Avenue, Diliman,
Quezon City

## **Dear Undersecretary Leones:**

The Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives has deliberated on and approved, in principle, several House Bills pertaining to the reclassification of land and declaration of certain areas as protected areas. In connection with the preparation of the corresponding Committee Report for the said measures, may we respectfully follow up on the request for the submission of the Technical Descriptions and other requirements or updates for the following measures:

| House Bill Number |                      | Title  | Date        |
|-------------------|----------------------|--|-------------|
| and Author        |                      |  | Taken Up    |
| 1.                | HB 2841, by Rep.     | 1  | August 31,  |
| 1                 | Dante S. Garcia      | The Strip Of Land Five (5) Kilometers From       | 2022        |
| 1                 | (DENR Regions I &    | Either Side Of The Aspiras Highway, From The     |             |
| 1                 | II)                  | Municipality Of Agoo, Province Of La Union To    |             |
|                   |                      | The Municipality Of Tuba, Province Of Benguet    |             |
|                   |                      | Covered By Proclamation No. 1754 As Alienable    |             |
|                   |                      | And Disposable Lands                             |             |
| 2.                | HB 95 by Rep.        | An Act Declaring As Agricultural Land Certain    | November    |
|                   | Robert Ace S.        | Parcels Of Land Of The Public Domain Situated    | 29, 2022    |
|                   | Barbers              | Within The City Of Surigao, Province Of Surigao  |             |
| Ĺ                 | (DENR CARAGA)        | Del Norte  |             |
| 3.                | HB 435 by Rep.       | An Act To Reclassify A Developed Portion Of      | November    |
|                   | Johnny Ty            | Forest Land Under Concession With Picop,         | 29, 2022    |
| ł                 | Pimentel             | Located In The City Of Bislig And The            |             |
|                   | (DENR CARAGA)        | Municipalities Of Hinatuan, Lingig, And Tagbina, |             |
|                   |                      | Province Of Surigao Del Sur. Into Alienable And  |             |
|                   |                      | Disposable Land Of The Public Domain For The     | 1           |
|                   |                      | Purpose Of Distributing The Same To Bona Fide    | 1           |
|                   |                      | And Long Term Farmers/Occupants Thereof,         |             |
|                   |                      | And For Other Purposes                           |             |
| 4.                | HB 6373 <sup>i</sup> | An Act Declaring The Three (3) Nautical Miles    | January 25, |
|                   | by Rep. Edward S.    | Surrounding The Kalayaan Island Group And        | 2023        |
|                   | Hagedorn             | Scarborough Shoal In The West Philippine Sea     |             |
|                   | (National Bill)      | As Marine Protected Area Under Republic Act      |             |

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|---------------------------------------|--|--|
|                                       | No. 7586 Or The National Integrated Protected  | # PERSON TO A PROGRAM ANNO A ANNO A STATE OF THE STATE OF |
|                                       | Areas System Act Of 1992, As Amended By  | 1  |
|                                       | Republic Act No. 11038, Or The Expanded  |  |
|                                       | National Integrated Protected Areas System Act   |  |
| ь. HB 901                             | Of 2018  |  |
| by Rep. Christian                     | An Act Establishing The Forest Boundary Of The Province Of Tarlac                            | February   |
| Tell A. Yap                           | Province of Tarrac   | 8, 2023  |
| (DENR Region III)                     |  | Į.   |
| 5. HB 981                             | An Act Repealing Presidential Proclamation No.   | February   |
| by Rep. Mark O. Go                    | 414 (Proposes to reclassify as alienable and open  | 8, 2023  |
| (DENR CAR)                            | to disposition - the 380 hectares of land in   | 0, 2023  |
|                                       | barangays Laokan Apugan, Atok Trail, and Kias,   | •  |
|                                       | previously declared as mineral reservation, shall  |  |
|                                       | form part of the Baguio Townsite Reservation.)   |  |
| 7. НВ 982                             | An Act Repealing Presidential Proclamation No.   | February   |
| by Rep. Mark O. Go                    | 572  | 8, 2023  |
| (DENR CAR)                            |  |  |
| B. HB 1821                            | An Act Establishing The Final Forestland   | February   |
| by Rep. Zaldy S.                      | Boundary Of The Province Of Siquijor   | 22, 2023   |
| Villa (DENR                           |  |  |
| Region VII)                           |  |  |
| . HB 6616 by Rep.                     | ,  | February   |
| Vincent Franco                        | Natural Resources In The Camotes Islands,  | 22, 2023   |
| "Duke" D. Frasco                      | Province Of Cebu, Declaring Certain Lands Of   |  |
| (DENR Region VII)                     | The Public Domain As Agricultural Land Open  |  |
|                                       | To Disposition For Agricultural, Commercial, Residential, Industrial And For Other Purposes, |  |
|                                       | Amending For The Purpose Proclamation No.  |  |
|                                       | 2152 Dated December 29, 1981, Entitled   |  |
|                                       | "Declaring The Entire Province Of Palawan And  |  |
|                                       | Certain Parcels Of The Public Domain And/Or  |  |
|                                       | Parts Of The Country As Mangrove Swamp   |  |
|                                       | Forest Reserves"   |  |
| 0. HB 3736                            | An Act Declaring The Lands Within The Town   | March 14,  |
| by Rep. Harris                        | <b>↑</b>   | 2023   |
| Christopher M.                        | ,  |  |
| Ongchuan                              | And Disposable Lands Open For Residential,   |  |
| (DENR Region                          |  |  |
| VIII)                                 | Purposes And Private Rights  |  |
| L1. HB 3791                           | An Act Declaring The Pantaron Mountain Range   | March 14,  |
| By Rep. Pantaleon                     |  | 2023   |
| D. Alvarez                            | Park And Watershed, And Providing For Its  | ļ  |
| 2 UD 4214                             | Management And Administration  | August   |
| 2. HB 4214                            | An Act Disestablishing The Lipatan-Liangan   | , –  |
| by Rep. Mohamad<br>Khalid Q.          | 1  | 2023   |
| _                                     | Proclamation No. 2152 Series Of 1981   |  |
| Dimaporo<br>(DENR Region X)           | 110clamation No. 2152 Series Of 1901   |  |
| L3. HB 4404                           | An Act Reclassifying And Converting Parcels Of   | August 2,  |
| שווים.                                | Timberland Located In Barangays 1 And 2  | 2023   |
|                                       | TIMBELIANU BUCALEU III DAIANGAYS I ANG 2   | 1 4043   |

| by Rep. Maria Fe R. Abunda (DENR Region VIII)  14. HB 4419 | (Poblacion), Bulawan, Caraycay, Libertad, Malobago, Maputi, San Roque, San Miguel In The Municipality Of Maslog And Small Portion In The Municipalities Of Arteche, Oras, And Dolores In The Province Of Eastern Samar, As Alienable And Disposable Lands  An Act To Convert Barangay Itbud, Municipality   | August         | 2, |
|--|---|----------------|----|
| by Rep. Ciriaco B. Gato Jr. (DENR Region II)               | Of Uyugan, Province Of Batanes, From Its<br>Present Classification As National Park To An<br>Alienable And Disposable Residential Land/Site   | 2023           |    |
| by Rep. Peter B. Miguel (DENR Region XII)                  | An Act Establishing Allah Valley Watershed Forest Reserve, Situated In The Municipalities Of Lake Sebu, Tb0li, And Surallah, Province Of South Cotabato, And Municipality Of Bagumbayan, Province Of Sultan Kudarat, As A Protected Area Under The Category Of Protected Landscape Pursuant To Republic Act No. 7586 As Amended By Republic Act No. 11038 Or Known As The Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas Systhm Act Of 2018, Providing For Its Management, Funds And For Other Purposes | August<br>2023 | 9, |
| 16. HB 7183 by Rep. Lordan G. Suan (DENR Region            | An Act Reclassifying A Parcel Land Of Public<br>Domain Located In Macanhan, Brgy. Carmen,<br>Cagayan De Oro City, Province Of Misamis<br>Oriental From Timberland To Alienable And<br>Disposable Land   | August<br>2023 | 9, |

We would like to request the submission of the said requirements or updates on the measures on or before **1 September 2023**. Attached herewith is a copy of the House Bills, for your kind reference.

Very truly yours,

HON. ELPIDIO F. BARZAGA JR.

Chairperson

Committee on Natural Resources

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A separate request has been sent on July 18, 2023 as regards House Bill. No. 6373.