

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 737

Introduced by **HON. ROZZANO RUFINO B. BIAZON**


EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Laguna Lake has always played a very important role in the lives of Filipinos past and present. It has been, and continues to be used, as a source for food water and livelihood of people living in its surroundings. It is also used as a water highway by which people can travel. The lake is therefore an essential in the survival of people not only in its surrounding areas but to other areas as well.

Lamentably, the various uses of the lake have also led to the deterioration of the quality of its water. Countless studies have already pointed this out and they are in unison that if not taken cared of, the lake will die and not be able to sustain life.

This situation must not be allowed to happen as countless lives depend on the lake. In fact, it has been tapped as a primary source of water being distributed to households in the southern portion of Metro Manila. However, this basic service has been interrupted several times already and is in danger of being stopped altogether if the quality of the water in the lake continues to deteriorate.

In view of the foregoing, the early passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


ROZZANO RUFINO B. BIAZON
Representative
Lone District, Muntinlupa City

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AN ACT
DECLARING THE LAGUNA LAKE AS A PRIMARY SOURCE OF POTABLE
WATER, PROVIDING THE MECHANISMS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy. – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to protect and promote the welfare and well-being of all its citizens by ensuring that their basic needs are met. The people must at all times be assured with water being among the basic needs. Toward this end, the State shall come up with policies that will provide the people with continuous water supply.

Sec. 2. Laguna Lake As a Source of Potable Water. – The Laguna Lake is hereby declared as a primary source of potable water. As such, the Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA) is hereby mandated to formulate and implement a program to ensure that the quality of water in the lake shall pass the standards of water sources intended for such use.

Sec. 3. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The LLDA shall, within sixty (60) days and in consultation with all stakeholders, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

Sec. 4. Separability Clause. – If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

Sec. 5. Repealing Clause. - Any law, presidential decree, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to, or is inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, is hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

Sec. 6. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,