

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 3701, June 22, 1963]

AN ACT TO DISCOURAGE DESTRUCTION OF FORESTS, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION TWENTY-SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE OF THE REVISED ADMINISTRATIVE CODE.

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

SECTION 1. Section twenty-seven hundred fifty-one of the Revised Administrative Code, as amended, is further amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 2751. *Unlawful occupation or destruction of public forest.*—Without the written permission of the Director of Forestry or his duly authorized representative, it shall be unlawful for any person willfully to enter upon any public forest, proclaimed timberland, communal forest, communal pasture, and forest reserve and occupy the same, or to make 'caiñgin' therein or in any manner destroy such forest or part thereof, or to cause any damage to the timber stand and other forest products and forest growth found therein, or to assist, aid or abet any other person so to do. It shall also be unlawful for any person negligently to permit a fire which has been set upon his own premises to be communicated, with destructive results, to any of the public forests herein above described. Any person violating this section shall suffer—

"(a) If the offense is committed within a proclaimed timberland or communal forest or communal pasture, a fine , of six times the regular government charges upon the timber or other forest products so unlawfully destroyed, in addition thereto, imprisonment for not less than six months nor more than one year;

"(b) If the offense is committed within a forest reserve, a fine of eight times the regular government charges on the timber or other forest products so unlawfully destroyed, and in addition thereto, imprisonment for not less than six months nor more than one year and six months;

"(c) If the offense is committed in any of the public forests, other than those mentioned under subsections (a) and (b) hereof, a fine equivalent to four times the regular government charges upon the timber or other forest products so unlawfully destroyed, and in addition thereto imprisonment for not less than three months nor more than six months.

"In all cases falling under this section, the court shall, upon conviction, order the eviction of the offender from the land, and the forfeiture to the Government of any construction or improvement made thereon. If the