Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH (18th) CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1916

Introduced by: DEPUTY SPEAKER JOSE L. ATIENZA, JR.

RESOLUTION
CALLING FOR AN IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, BY THE
APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, ON THE
DAMAGING EFFECTS ON THE PINAGREALAN CAVE BY THE MINING AND
QUARRYING ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BY SPAR DEVELOPMENT COMPANY,
INCORPORATED WITHIN THE PROXIMITY OF THE CAVE LOCATED AT MINUYAN,
NORZAGARAY, PROVINCE OF BULACAN

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9072 otherwise known as "National Caves and Cave
Resources Management and Protection Act" was approved and passed into law on April
1, 2008;

WHEREAS, it is very clear in the 1st paragraph of Section 7 of R.A. 9072, as
amended, the following:

"(a) Knowingly destroying, disturbing, defacing, marring, altering,
removing, or harming the speleothem or speleothem of any cave or
altering the free movement of any animal or plant life into or out of
any cave"

WHEREAS, Department Administrative Order No. 2003-29 entitled "Implementing
Rules and Regulations of the National Caves and Cave Resources Management and
Protection Act (R.A. 9072)" was approved on
July 7, 2003 wherein the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is
designated as the lead agency tasked to implement the provisions thereof;

WHEREAS, located in Minuyan, Norzagaray, Province of Bulacan is Pinagrealan
Cave. The Pinagrealan Cave is a limestone cave with an approximate height of three (3)
to seven (7) meters, more or less, and width of 0.3 to 1.5 meters. The length of the cave
is approximated at one (1) kilometer in depth, from the cave entrance up to its end;
WHEREAS, Pinagrealan Cave is rich in history. It is known for its significant part during the Spanish occupation. Its geographical and strategic location, as it is surrounded by hills, was a major consideration for the "Katipuneros" to camp in and use it as its discreet station for General Emilio Aguinaldo during the Filipino-Spanish War in 1898. It was also occupied and used by the remaining soldiers of the Japanese Imperial Army during liberation time with by American Forces;

WHEREAS, the valuable recognition of Pinagrealan Cave as part of our history was expressed in numerous recognition such as a "Historical Landmark" by the National Historical Commission, "Class 2 Protected Cave" by the Department of Environment and National Resources, and as a "Historical Site" by the Provincial Government of Bulacan and Municipality of Norzagaray;

WHEREAS, within the proximity of Pinagrealan Cave, about ONE HUNDRED (100) meters above, a mining and quarrying activity is being conducted wherein heavy machineries are used as well as blasting operations are done regularly;

WHEREAS, the proximity of said mining and quarry activities to the Pinagrealan Cave has resulted in damage to and threat of permanent destruction of said historical cave. The vibrations and blastings have left their mark on the cave where cracks, collapsed rubble and breaks in the wall stones, including the mineral build-up inside the cave, are very much evident.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the appropriate committee of the House of Representatives conducts a review of and investigation, in aid of legislation, into the license, permit and operations of Spar Development Company, Incorporated, and all persons involved in its activities which have been damaging the Pinagrealan Cave.

Adopted.

DEPUTY SPEAKER JOSE L. ATIENZA, JR.
Representative, BUHAY Party-List