



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Thirteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1529

Introduced by HON. MUJIV S. HATAMAN of Anak Mindanao (AMIN) Party List

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Under the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act (IPRA) of 1997, particularly under the Chapter on the Right to Self-governance and Empowerment, "The indigenous cultural communities (ICCs)/indigenous peoples (IPs) living in contiguous areas where they form the predominant population but which are located in municipalities, provinces or cities where they do not constitute the majority of the population, may form or constitute a separate barangay in accordance with the Local Government Code on the creation of tribal barangays." (Sec. 18, R.A. No. 8371)

The Local Government Code provides that "To enhance the delivery of basic services in the indigenous cultural communities, barangays may be created in such communities by an Act of Congress", notwithstanding the population requirement of at least 2,000 inhabitants (Sec. 386, R.A. No. 7160).

Comes now the case of Sitio Bulansing in Barangay Sulo, Municipality of Naga, Province of Zamboanga Sibugay. This sitio of 164 households, 390 registered voters and a population of 2,006 is predominantly populated by the Subanen tribe. In fact, a "Barangay Tribal Council" leads the community.

This Council passed in 2002 a Resolution requesting the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), the Barangay

Council of Sulo, and the Sangguniang Bayan of Naga to facilitate the creation of a Tribal Barangay out of Sitio Bulansing. The Resolution stated, among others, that "such creation is intended to uplift the Subanen's political self-determination."

This Resolution has in turn been supported and endorsed by the Barangay Council of Sulo, the Municipal Local Government Operations Officer of Naga, the Sangguniang Bayan of Naga, and the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP)-Ipil, Zamboanga Sibugay Community Service Center.

They attest that all requirements have been met for the creation of a new tribal barangay of Bulansing, of which there is a sketch plan. There are also no boundary conflicts with the adjoining barangays of Cabong, Guintoloan, Marsolo, and Supit, as certified to by their respective Barangay Chairmen.

The creation of a new tribal barangay of Bulansing may be a model for other indigenous cultural communities so that they may enjoy the blessings of self-governance, empowerment and better delivery of basic services. The soonest approval of this bill is therefore earnestly requested.



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**AN ACT CREATING THE NEW TRIBAL BARANGAY OF BULANSING OUT OF THE
EXISTING SITIO BULANSING IN BARANGAY SULO, MUNICIPALITY OF NAGA,
PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY**

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

SECTION 1. *Creation.* - A new tribal barangay of Bulansing is hereby created out of the existing Sitio Bulansing in Barangay Sulo, Municipality of Naga, Province of Zamboanga Sibugay, in recognition of the self-determination aspirations of the predominant Subanen tribal population in Sitio Bulansing and to enhance the delivery of basic services to the said tribal population.

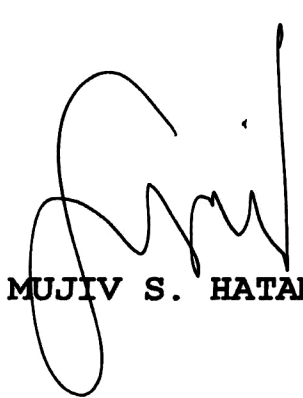
SECTION 2. *Territory.* - The territorial jurisdiction or metes and bounds of the new tribal barangay of Bulansing shall be the same as that of the existing sitio Bulansing in Bgy. Sulo, Naga, Zamboanga Sibugay.

SECTION 3. *Plebiscite.* - The creation of the new tribal barangay of Bulansing shall take effect when approved by a majority of the votes cast in a plebiscite called for the

purpose in the existing Barangay Sulo of Naga, Zamboanga Sibugay. Said plebiscite shall be conducted within one (1) month from the date of effectivity of this law.

SECTION 4. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,



MUJIV S. HATAMAN