



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila



**Thirteenth Congress
Third Regular Session**

HOUSE BILL NO. 5427

Introduced by Honorable Roger G. Mercado

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to place the entire Province of Southern Leyte under the National Integrated Protected Areas System Act (NIPAS) of 1992.

In the last few years there have been numerous recorded calamities and tragedies that have besieged the province of Southern Leyte.

The beautiful forests, streams, rivers and coastlines of Southern Leyte must be nurtured and protected at all costs from natural and man-made destructive activities. This is so that the province's fragile ecosystem can continue to thrive and flourish.

The NIPAS act, which protects and applies to practically all types of areas that require conservation and protection, would significantly help the province of Southern Leyte in healing its wounds from the continuous calamities which it has been experiencing left and right throughout the years. This course of action will significantly bolster the province's defenses from further calamities that may happen in the future.

The province's people, environment and natural resources will be protected once it is under this act.

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

ROGER G. MERCADO



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**AN ACT PLACING THE PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE UNDER
THE PROTECTIVE SHIELD OF THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED
PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM (NIPAS) ACT OF 1992**

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

SECTION 1. The entire Province of Southern Leyte be placed under the protective shield of the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act of 1992, and will hereby be protected under the provisions of this act.

SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall issue the necessary rules, orders, and circulars to implement the provision of this Act.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,