



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

Thirteenth Congress
Second Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 5430

Introduced by Honorable Isidro S. Rodriguez, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare the area of land constituting the Sitio of Wawa in Barangay San Rafael, Municipality of Rodriguez, Province of Rizal as alienable and disposable to enable the residents thereon to own and legally occupy the same.

On October 10, 1996, then President Fidel V. Ramos issued Proclamation No. 901 (Pamitinan Protected Landscape) which includes Sitio Wawa in San Rafael, Rodriguez, Rizal as a protected area. This presidential edict seeks to preserve and develop the area for eco-tourism purposes. Moreover, Sitio Wawa falls under the coverage of Republic Act No. 7586 otherwise known as the National Integrated Protected Area System (NIPAS) Act of 1992 which reserves and protects outstandingly remarkable areas and biologically important public lands that are habitats of rare and endangered species of plants and animals, biographic zones and related ecosystems, whether marine, terrestrial or wetland.

The residents of Sitio Wawa have been living in the area continuously for almost forty (40) years now. They have established a community complete with public elementary and high school, health center and other government infrastructures. Thus, the residents are wary of the

government's plan to develop the Pamitinan Protected Landscape into an eco-tourism project. These improvements will go to naught if the residents are relocated to distant places bereft of basic necessities and services. This measure is in response to such request.

In view thereof, the approval of this bill is respectfully requested.


ISIDRO S. RODRIGUEZ, JR.



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

Thirteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5430

Introduced by Honorable Isidro S. Rodriguez, Jr.

AN ACT
DECLARING THE LAND CONSTITUTING SITIO WAWA IN
BARANGAY SAN RAFAEL, MUNICIPALITY OF RODRIGUEZ,
PROVINCE OF RIZAL AS ALIENABLE AND DISPOSABLE LAND.

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

SECTION 1. The land constituting Sitio Wawa in Barangay San Rafael, Municipality of Rodriguez, Province of Rizal, is hereby classified as alienable and disposable land.

SEC. 2. The Land Management Bureau shall cause the subdivision of the land so classified, and subject to the approval of the Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources, shall determine the area of each lot,

taking into consideration the nature of the lot, the number of the proposed applicants and the purpose for which it shall be utilized.

SEC. 3. The land so subdivided shall be distributed to the *bona fide* residents of Sitio Wawa not otherwise disqualified by law to own public lands, who do not own any parcel of land in the Philippines nor beneficiaries of any agrarian reform land distribution: *Provided*, That no person or family shall be entitled to own more than one (1) lot.

For purposes of this Act, a *bona fide* resident refers to any person who has been actually and continuously occupying the area for the last thirty (30) years prior to the designation of the same as protected area and solely dependent on the land for subsistence.

SEC. 4. No property acquired by virtue of this Act shall, without the consent of the Land Management Bureau, be sold, transferred, mortgaged, or otherwise disposed of except through hereditary succession or to the government or to other qualified beneficiaries. Any such sale or disposition made in violation hereof shall be null and void.

SEC. 5. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 6. All laws, decrees, orders, executive rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,