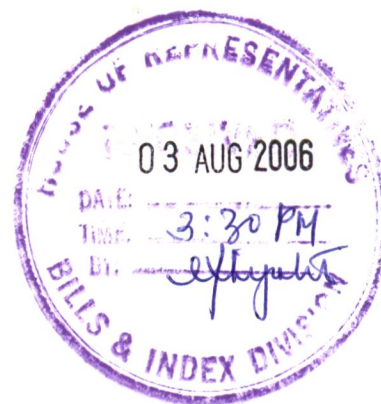


Congress of the Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5684

Introduced by Representative **ABRAHAM KAHLIL B. MITRA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The people of Barangay Magsaysay in the Municipality of Aborlan have long been clamoring for the reclassification of their Timberland Areas into Alienable and Disposable Land. Although Barangay Magsaysay have productive farm lots most of these areas are still under timberland classification. Based on the 2004 Regional Profile by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources for the MIMAROPA Region, the municipality of Aborlan has a total land area of ninety thousand eight hundred eighty hectares (90,880 has.) of which 70% are considered alienable and disposal while 30% remains as timberland.

Out of the said timberland areas, Bgy. Magsaysay has the vast potential of developing into a progressive area with respect to the existing economic potential of the barangay. Due to the unresolved land classification of the site, it has been unfavorable for the previous and current governance to explore the full potential of the barangay. In fact, the Barangay site including its Barangay Hall is under timberland lot, and for these reason they have hesitated to put up or establish permanent infrastructures for reason that the land is not yet classified for occupancy.

Once reclassified from timberland to alienable and disposable, the land, pursuant to existing laws, shall be eligible for titling to the private owners and public sites as well as the indigenous peoples who had acquired, cultivated, and made considerable investments to develop it into a productive land will have the benefit of embracing full ownership. Moreover, the private sector shall become active partners of the government in preserving the protected areas in the municipality.

This proposal seeks to remedy the present state of its resident by reclassifying some its land from timberland to alienable and disposable land as described herein.

Passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


ABRAHAM KAHLIL B. MITRA
2nd District of Palawan

Congress of the Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5684

Introduced by Representative **ABRAHAM KAHLIL B. MITRA**

AN ACT

RECLASSIFYING A CERTAIN PORTION OF THE DEVELOPED AND POTENTIAL TIMBERLAND AREA WITHIN THE TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF BARANGAY MAGSAYSAY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ABORLAN PROVINCE OF PALAWAN INTO AN ALLIENABLE AND DISPOSABLE LAND.

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

SECTION 1. The land comprising One Hundred Ninety Two and Sixty Hectares (192.60 ha) situated in Barangay Magsaysay of the Municipality of Aborlan in the Province of Palawan, is hereby reclassified from timberland to alienable and disposable land.

SECTION 2. The allocation of these land herein described shall respect the rights of the Indigenous Cultural Communities/Indigenous Peoples as provided for in Republic Act 8371, otherwise know as the "Indigenous People's Right Act of 1997-IPRA".

SECTION 3. The parcel of land shall be disposed giving priority to the bonafide actual occupants and to landless residents of Barangay Magsaysay and Municipality of Aborlan in accordance with existing laws, rules and regulations under the administration of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and National Commission for Indigenous Peoples.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,