

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

Fifteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4331

Introduced by Rep. Reynaldo V. Umali

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to create a Mangyan Culture and Arts Board, defining its powers and functions and appropriating funds therefor.

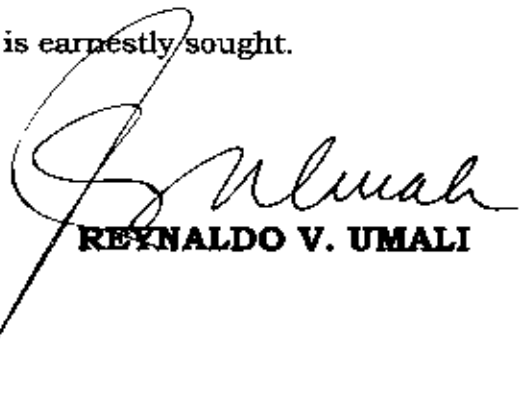
Section 22, Article II (Declaration of Principles and State Policies) of the 1987 Constitution provides:

SEC. 22. The State recognizes and promotes the rights of indigenous cultural communities within the framework of national unity and development.

The Mangyan are indigenous peoples living in Mindoro Island. Numbering about 100,000.00 they constitute ten percent of the total population of the island. The main Mangyan tribes are Alangan, Bangon, Tau-Buid, Buhid, Hanunoo, Tadyawan, Iraya, and Ratagnon. Their rich and ancient culture is a significant part of our national heritage. However, these indigenous groups are in danger of losing their cultural practices due to their integration into the mainstream of the modern society and the commercialization of tourism which undermines their cultural identity.

This bill seeks to create a Mangyan Culture and Arts Board to develop programs for the revitalization, promotion and preservation of the unique culture and arts of Mangyan. This will also help uplift the socio-economic condition of the Mangyan groups.

Hence, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



REYNALDO V. UMALI

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FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
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HOUSE BILL NO. 4331

Introduced by **Honorable REYNALDO V. UMALI**

**AN ACT CREATING A MANGYAN CULTURE AND ARTS BOARD,
DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR.**

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

SECTION 1. ***Mangyan Culture and Arts Board*** – The Mangyan Culture and Arts Board, hereinafter referred to as the "Board," is hereby created to develop programs for the preservation, revitalization and promotion of Mangyan culture and arts, uplift the economic conditions of the Mangyan and further enhance their cultural identity. The Board shall be under the supervision of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP)

SECTION 2. ***Composition*** – The Board shall be composed of a chairperson and eight (8) members who shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines from a list of recommendees submitted by the NCIP. Eight (8) members shall be appointed from the different Mangyan tribes of Alangan, Bangon, Tau-Buid, Buhid, Hanunoo, Tadyawan, Iraya, and Ratagnon. One (1) member shall be appointed from a non-governmental organization supporting the Mangyan tribal groups.

SECTION 3. ***Term of Office*** – The chairperson and the eight (8) members of the Board shall serve for a term of four (4) years. In case a vacancy occurs before the expiration of the term of office, the new appointee shall serve the unexpired term only.

SECTION 4. ***Qualifications***. – The chairperson and the members must be natural born Filipino citizens, experienced in ethnic affairs, at least (30) years of age at the time of appointment and must be of proven honesty and integrity.

SECTION 5. **Duties and Functions.** The Board shall exercise the following duties and functions:

- a) ~~Promote the economic welfare of the Mangyan tribes by~~ owned and operated by members of the tribes for their mutual benefit;
- b) Support and promote the preservation of the cultural and historical values of the Mangyan culture and arts through the integration of Mangyan products into the domestic and international markets;
- c) Encourage and support research by providing technical advice and assistance;
- d) Coordinate with the Department of Trade and Industry on the recognition of quality Mangyan products, seek trademarks for such products and establish the standards and regulations for the use of such trademarks, and seek exemption from the payment of corresponding patent fees;
- e) Promote the public information, education and cultural-education exchange, in coordination with other relevant government agencies and non-governmental organizations, on the promotion and enhancement of the distinctive heritage and values of the Mangyan;
- f) Ensure the participation of Mangyan leaders in schools, communities and international undertakings like festivals, conferences, seminars and workshops; and
- g) Perform such other functions as may be necessary in furtherance of the purpose of this Act.

SECTION 6. **Meetings.** – Regular meetings of the Board shall be held at the Provincial Office of the NCIP in Oriental Mindoro at least once a month. Special meetings may be held as often as may be necessary. In the absence or incapacity of a member to attend any regular or special meeting of the Board, the duly designated representative of the member shall attend and be vested with the same power and authority as a regular member.

A quorum of the Board shall consist of five (5) members holding office at the time of the meeting: Provided, however, That the chairperson of the Board is among those present in the meeting.

The chairperson and members shall be entitled to *per diems* and honoraria to be fixed by the chairman of the NCIP for actual attendance in their meetings. They shall be reimbursed their travel expenses for meetings attended.

SECTION 7. **Secretariat.** – The Provincial Office of the NCIP in Oriental Mindoro shall provide technical, management and staff services to the Board in the performance of its duties.

SECTION 8. **Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the NCIP shall formulate the rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

SECTION 9. **Appropriations** – The amount as may be necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be taken from the current appropriations of the NCIP. Thereafter, such amount as may be necessary for its continued operation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 10. **Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SECTION 11. **Effectivity.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.
