

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

16th Congress
First Regular Session
House Bill No. **5359**



Introduced by Representative Teddy Brawner Baguilat

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING RESOURCE CENTERS FOR INDIGENOUS CULTURAL
COMMUNITIES/INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TO ENHANCE AND ENSURE DELIVERY
OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

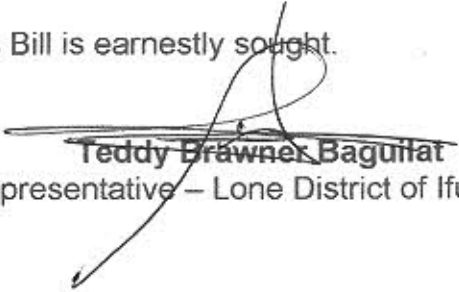
Explanatory Note

The 1987 Constitution provides under Article II, Section 22 that, "The State recognizes and promotes the rights of indigenous cultural communities within the framework of national unity and development." Furthermore, it provides under Article XIV, Section 17, that "The State shall recognize, respect, and protect the rights of indigenous cultural communities to preserve and develop their cultures, traditions, and institutions. It shall consider these rights in the formulation of national plans and policies." To give life to this Constitutional provisions, Republic Act No. 8371, otherwise known as the 'Indigenous Peoples Rights Act' (IPRA), was enacted into law in 1997.

Decades after the passage of the law and despite several engagement on the part of the government and civil society, however, Indigenous Peoples remain on the fringes of Philippine society. Due to their geographic isolation, Indigenous Peoples have a hard time receiving the necessary basic services provided by government. Also, due to their control and possession of their ancestral domain which are rich of resources, they becomes targets of human rights abuses.

Given these realities, I am filing this bill, and echoing the Resource Centers for Indigenous Peoples Bill (Senate Bill No. 2209) of the good Senator Loren Legarda. This Bill establishes Resource Centers in all Indigenous Peoples Communities, which shall serve as access centers to enhance delivery of basic, social, technical and legal services. As such, it will significantly boost current government efforts in uplifting Indigenous Peoples in the country.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this Bill is earnestly sought.


Teddy Brawner Baguilat
Representative – Lone District of Ifugao

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

16th Congress
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. **5359**

Introduced by Representative Teddy Brawner Baguilat

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING RESOURCE CENTERS FOR INDIGENOUS CULTURAL
COMMUNITIES/INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TO ENHANCE AND ENSURE DELIVERY
OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Resource Centers for Indigenous Peoples Act of 2015”.

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is hereby the policy of the State to provide Indigenous Cultural Communities (ICCs)/Indigenous Peoples (IPs) equal access to basic services and ensure protection of their rights, taking into consideration their customs, traditions, values and beliefs. Towards this end, there is a need to set up Resource Centers in all ethnographic regions to enhance the delivery of government's basic services and enable them to be recognized and counted and have freedom to engage in participatory development programs, projects and activities.

SEC. 3. Establishment of Resource Centers for ICCs/IPs. - There shall be established ICCs/IPs Resource Centers, hereinafter referred to as the “Center”, in strategic places as determined by the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), hereinafter referred to as the “Commission”, taking into consideration their ethnological locations.

SEC. 4. Staff and Components of the ICC/IP Resource Centers. – The Commission shall designate in every Center a Chief Coordinating Officer. Concerned government departments and agencies and local governments shall assign staff members to the Resource Centers.

SEC. 5. Composition and Functions of the Center. The Center shall be composed of the following three (3) major service areas and their respective functions, namely:

A) Statistical Service Area – documentation and recognition of ICCs/IPs, their indigenous knowledge, systems and practices, political structures and customary laws through census, appraisal and baseline reports and libraries;

B) Human Development Index Service Area – addresses problems of ICCs/IPs and provide basic and necessary services through link-up with concerned government department and agencies, such as training programs, grant of scholarships, employment, livelihood and enterprises and health services; and

C) Domains Management Service Area – promotion of participatory programs, projects and activities for ICCs/IPs to effectively deliver their responsibility of maintaining ecological balance, restore denuded areas, observe laws, and ensure the implementation of the Ancestral Domains Sustainable Development and Protections Plans and such other existing programs.

SEC. 6. Monitoring Progress and Implementation and Impact of this Act. – The Commission shall submit to Congress every three (3) years or as determined in the implementing rules and regulations, an annual report of its accomplishments.

SEC. 7. Funding. – The initial funding requirements for the implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current appropriations of the agencies concerned.

Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for its continued implementation, shall be included in the agencies' yearly budgets under the General Appropriations Act.

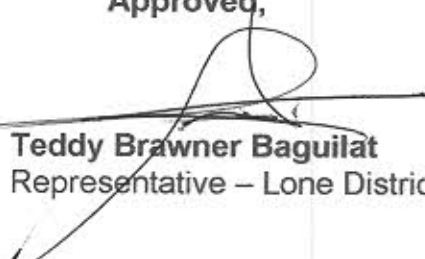
SEC. 8. Implementing Rules and Regulations – Within ninety (90) days after the approval of this Act, the Commission, in coordination with the following concerned government agencies, to wit: Local Government Units (LGUs), Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Department of Education (DepEd), Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Commission on Human Rights (CHR), Department of Justice (DOJ), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Health (DOH), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Agriculture (DA), Land Management Bureau (LMB), Land Registration Authority (LRA), and such other concerned agencies, shall issue the necessary Rules and Regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 9. Repealing Clause. – All laws, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 10. Separability Clause. – If any part, section or provision of this Act shall be held invalid or unconstitutional, no other part, section or provisions thereof shall be affected thereby.

SEC. 11. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,



Teddy Brawner Baguilat
Representative – Lone District of Ifugao