

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
Third Regular Session

House Bill No. **8404**



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Introduced by **MAGDALO Party-List Representative**  
**HON. GARY C. ALEJANO**

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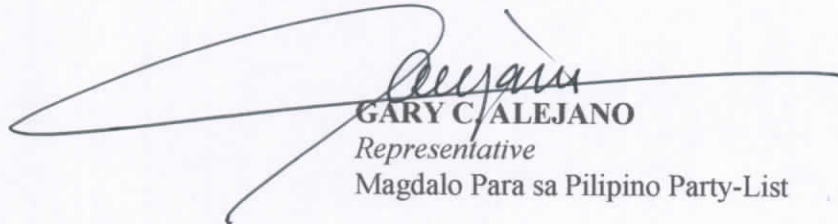
**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

In determining what reforms are necessary, massive amounts of research material and data are vital for the successful enactment and implementation of objective, scientific, and factually sound laws. The process of data collection requires that all relevant variables and indicators are taken into account to accurately present the full picture of whatever point of interest such collected data aims to depict.

In the case of the Philippine Statistics Authority, it must include ethnic origin in the collection of its data in order to provide a more clear-cut, accessible, and definite data collection on ethnic origin in the national survey.

The inclusion of ethnic origin in the national survey is in line with the state policy of recognizing and promoting the rights of indigenous peoples or indigenous cultural communities within the framework of national unity and development.

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

  
**GARY C. ALEJANO**  
Representative  
Magdalo Para sa Pilipino Party-List

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AN ACT  
TO INCLUDE ETHNIC ORIGIN IN THE NATIONAL SURVEY CONDUCTED BY  
THE PHILIPPINES STATISTIC AUTHORITY

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

1       **SEC.1. Short Title.-** This Act shall be known as the “Ethnic Origin Act of 2018.”  
2

3       **SEC.2. Declaration of Policy.-** It is the policy of the State to recognize and promote  
4 the rights of indigenous peoples or indigenous cultural communities within the framework of  
5 national unity and development. The State shall give the highest priority to the enactment of  
6 measures that protect and enhance the right of all the people to human dignity, reduce social,  
7 economic and political inequalities, and remove cultural inequities.  
8

9       **SEC.3. Definition of Terms.-** As used in this Act, the following terms shall mean the  
10 following:  
11

12       (a) “Ethnic Origin or Ethnicity” includes nationality and ethno-linguistic origin.  
13

14       (b) “Indigenous Peoples (IPs) or Indigenous Cultural Communities (ICCs)” shall, as  
15 provided under Section 3 (h) of Chapter II of RA No. 8371 or the “Indigenous  
16 People’s Rights Act (IRA) of 1997”, refer to a group of people or homogenous  
17 societies identified by self-ascription by others, who have continuously lived as an  
18 organized community on communally-bounded and defined territory, and who  
19 have, under claims of ownership since time immemorial, occupied, possessed and  
20 utilized such territories, sharing common bonds of language, customs, traditions,  
21 and other distinctive cultural traits, or who have, through resistance to political,  
22 social, and cultural inroads of colonization, non-indigenous religions and cultures,  
23 became historically differentiated from the majority of Filipinos. ICCs and IPs  
24 shall likewise include peoples who are regarded as indigenous on account of their  
25 descent from the populations which inhabited the country, at the time of conquest  
26 or colonization, or at the time of inroads of non-indigenous religions and cultures,  
27 or establishment of present state boundaries, who retain some or all of their own  
28 social, economic, cultural and political institutions, but who may have been  
29 displaced from their traditional domains or who may have resettled outside their  
30 ancestral domains.  
31

1       **SEC.4. Duty of the Philippine Statistics Authority.-** It shall be the duty of the  
2 Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), in coordination with the National Commission on  
3 Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), to ensure the employment of enumerators, or the deployment of  
4 NCIP employees, who are knowledgeable of the different IPs and ICCs of the Philippines,  
5 and the language and appropriate manner of asking culturally-sensitive questions to IPs and  
6 ICCs, in gathering data on Ethnic Origin during the conduct of the national survey and  
7 national census. Furthermore, the PSA should ensure that all surveys and documents issued  
8 by their office should be culturally sensitive.

9  
10       **SEC.5. Duty of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples.-** It shall be the  
11 duty of the NCIP to conduct the proper training of PSA enumerators, including the barangay  
12 indigenous guides, all over the country to ensure that they have adequate knowledge of the  
13 different IPs and ICCs in their area, their language, way of life, and culture, and the manner  
14 of asking them culturally-sensitive questions.

15  
16       As indigenous guide in each barangay, or any officer or member of the concerned  
17 Local Culture and Arts Council or Local Tourism Council, as the case may be, shall also be  
18 trained by the NCIP, who may assist the city or municipal government in the conduct of  
19 cultural mapping within a local government unit.

20  
21       **SEC.6. Appropriations.-** The amount of one hundred million pesos (P100,000,000)  
22 that shall be given to PSA for the training of PSA enumerators shall be charged against any  
23 available appropriation in the General Appropriations Act (GAA) of the year of its  
24 implementation. Thereafter, such sums as be necessary shall be included in the yearly  
25 General Appropriations Act.

26  
27       **SEC.7. Implementing Rules and Regulations.-** The PSA, with the assistance of the  
28 NCIP, shall promulgate the necessary implementing rules and regulations within 90 days  
29 from the effectivity of this Act.

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31       **SEC.8. Separability Clause.-** If any portion or provision of this Act is declared void  
32 or unconstitutional, the remaining portions or provisions hereof shall not be affected by such  
33 declaration.

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35       **SEC.9. Repealing Clause.-** Any provision of law or regulations inconsistent herewith  
36 is hereby repealed, revoked, or modified accordingly.

37  
38       **SEC.10. Effectivity.-** This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the  
39 completion of its publication either in the Official Gazette or in newspaper of general  
40 circulation in the Philippines.

*Approved,*