

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

House Bill No. **8406**



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

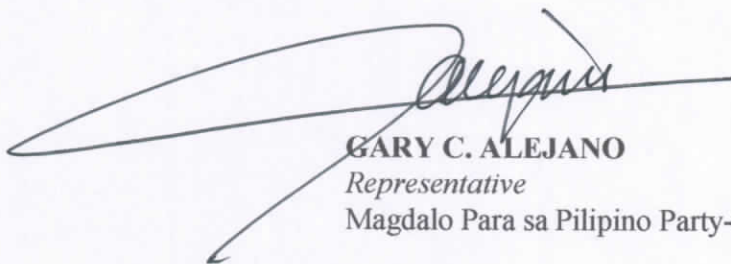
EXPLANATORY NOTE

Enacted in 1997, R.A. No. 8371 or the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act gave effect to the constitutional recognition to the estimated twelve to fifteen million Indigenous Cultural Communities (ICCs) and Indigenous Peoples (IPs) located in forty-eight provinces and thirteen cities nationwide. It has hoped to provide for our IPs, who has labeled themselves as marginalized, more opportunities and greater community empowerment.

The success of IPRA however is minimal, for despite the efforts exerted by the government, in coordination with private organizations advocating for IPs, and significant international support, our indigenous peoples continually remain among the poor and marginalized sectors of our society. In geographically isolated and extreme areas (GIDAs), where many of our indigenous peoples have found their homes, basic services remain deficient. Moreover, reports of serious violations of their rights, their displacement from the ancestral lands, the environmental degradation, and cultural teardown are still abound.

For the abovementioned reasons, the establishment of resource centers for indigenous peoples is highly necessary. These centers shall be ethnographically located, gender and rights based, as determined by the NCIP. It shall constitute the following service areas: Statistical Service Area, Human Development Index Service Area and Domains Management Service Area.

To expeditiously address the enduring plight of our indigenous peoples, immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


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

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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 the House of Representatives of the Philippines in
Congress assembled:*

1 **SEC.1. Short Title.-** This Act shall be known as the “Resource Centers for Indigenous
2 Peoples Act of 2014”.

3
4 **SEC.2. Declaration of Policy.-** It is hereby the policy of the State to provide
5 Indigenous Cultural Communities (ICCs)/ Indigenous Peoples (IPs) equal access to basic
6 services and ensure protection of their rights, taking into consideration their customs,
7 traditions, values and beliefs. Towards this end, there is a need to set up Resource Centers in
8 all ethnographic regions to enhance the delivery of government’s basic services and enable
9 them to be recognized and counted and have freedom to engage in participatory development
10 programs, projects and activities.

11
12 **SEC.3. Establishment of Resource Centers for ICCs/IPs.-** There shall be
13 established ICCs /IPs Resource Centers, hereinafter referred to as the “Center”, in strategic
14 places as determined by the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), hereinafter
15 referred to as the “Commission”, taking into consideration their ethnological locations.

16
17 **SEC.4. Staff and Components of the ICC/IP Resource Centers.-** The Commission
18 shall designate in every Center a Chief Coordinating Officer. Concerned government
19 departments and agencies and local governments shall assign staff members to the Resource
20 Centers.

21
22 **SEC.5. Composition and Functions of the Center.-** The Center shall be composed
23 of the following three (3) major service areas and their respective functions namely:

- 24
25 A) Statistical Service Area- documentation and recognition of ICCs/IPs their
26 indigenous knowledge, systems and practices, political structures and customary
27 laws through census, appraisal and baseline reports and libraries;
28

1 B) Human Development Index Service Area- addresses problems of ICCs/IPs and
2 provide basic and necessary services through link-up with concerned government
3 department and agencies, such as training programs, grant of scholarships,
4 employment, livelihood and enterprises and health services; and
5

6 C) Domains Management Service Area- promotion of participatory programs,
7 projects and activities for ICCs/IPs to effectively deliver their responsibility of
8 maintaining ecological balance, restore denuded areas, observe laws, and ensure
9 the implementation of the Ancestral Domains Sustainable Development and
10 Protection Plans and such other existing programs.
11

12 **SEC.6. Monitoring Progress and Implementation and Impact of this Act.-** The
13 Commission shall submit to Congress every three (3) years or as determined in the
14 implementing rules and regulations, an annual report of its accomplishments.
15

16 **SEC.7. Funding.-** The initial funding requirements for the implementation of this Act
17 shall be charged against the current appropriations of the agencies concerned. Thereafter,
18 such sums as may be necessary for its continued implementation shall be included in the
19 agencies' yearly budgets under the General Appropriations Act.
20

21 **SEC.8. Implementing Rules and Regulations. –** Within ninety (90) days after the
22 approval of this Act, the Commission, in coordination with the following concerned
23 government agencies, to wit: Local Government Units (LGUs), Philippine Statistics
24 Authority (PSA), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Technical
25 Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Department of Education (DepEd),
26 Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Commission on Human Rights (CHR),
27 Department of Justice (DOJ), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of
28 Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Health (DOH), Department of Environment and
29 Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Agriculture (DA), Land Management Bureau
30 (LMB), Land Registration Authority (LRA), and such other concerned agencies, shall issue
31 the necessary Rules and Regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.
32

33 **SEC.9. Repealing Clause.-** All laws, decrees or rules inconsistent with the provisions
34 of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
35

36 **SEC.10. Separability Clause.-** If any part, section or provision of this Act shall be
37 held invalid or unconstitutional, no other part, section or provision thereof shall be affected
38 thereby.
39

40 **SEC.11. Effectivity.-** This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the
41 completion of its publication either in the Official Gazette or in newspaper of general
42 circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,