



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 4133

Introduced by Representative Nelson S. Legacion
Third Congressional District, Camarines Sur

This bill seeks to amend Republic Act No. 8371, also known as the *Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act of 1997 (IPRA)*, to ensure that Indigenous Cultural Communities and Indigenous Peoples (ICCs/IPs) receive a direct and equitable share of the wealth generated from their ancestral lands. While the IPRA legally recognizes the rights of indigenous peoples to their ancestral domains and requires their consent for resource exploration and development, it lacks a clear provision for their economic participation in such ventures.

Currently, many resource-rich areas in the Philippines are home to indigenous communities. Yet, these communities often remain among the poorest and most marginalized, while natural resource projects within their territories generate significant revenue for corporations and the government.

This bill addresses this disparity by adding a new Section 58 to the IPRA. This new section mandates a ten percent (10%) share of the net revenues from the exploration, development, and utilization of natural resources, including natural gas projects, to be given directly to the ICCs/IPs within whose territories these activities occur.

The passage of this bill is essential to rectify a long-standing injustice experienced by indigenous peoples and to genuinely empower indigenous communities. By granting them a direct share in the economic benefits of their ancestral lands, this legislation will help ensure their self-sufficiency, support their cultural preservation, and enable them to fund their own development initiatives. This is a crucial step towards fulfilling the State's constitutional and moral obligation to protect and promote the rights and welfare of our nation's indigenous peoples.

This proposed bill is a refiled version of a measure introduced in the 19th Congress by Senator Robinhood C. Padilla. It aims to rectify the shortcomings of existing laws and ensure that Indigenous Cultural Communities and Indigenous

Peoples (ICCs/IPs) are empowered to benefit directly from the natural resources within their ancestral domains.

In view of the foregoing, immediate passage of this proposed measure is sought.



NELSON S. LEGACION
Representative, Third District, Camarines Sur



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**AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8371 OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS "THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES RIGHTS ACT OF 1997"**

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

SECTION 1. A new Section 58 shall be added to Republic Act No. 8371 otherwise known as "*The Indigenous Peoples Rights Act of 1997*", to read as follows:

"SEC. 58. *SHARE OF THE INDIGENOUS CULTURAL COMMUNITIES AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (ICCs/IPs)*. - ICCs/IPs SHALL HAVE TEN PERCENT (10%) SHARE OF THE NET REVENUES GENERATED FROM THE EXPLORATION, DEVELOPMENT, AND UTILIZATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES, INCLUDING NATURAL GAS PROJECTS, FOUND WITHIN THE TERRITORIES COVERED BY A NATIVE, TRADITIONAL, OR CUSTOMARY TITLE IN THEIR FAVOR.

SECTION 2. *Separability Clause.* — If any provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3. *Repealing Clause.* — All laws, decrees, orders, issuances, and rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 4. *Effectivity Clause.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,