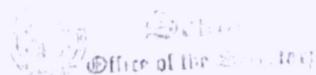


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*First Regular Session* )



SENATE

'19 JUL 15 A9:51

S. No. 443

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**Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.**

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

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

It is the declared policy of the State to recognize, respect, and protect the rights of indigenous cultural communities to preserve and develop their cultures, traditions, and institutions. No less than the Philippine Constitution, the highest law of the land, upholds this policy. Thus, Republic Act. No. 8371, otherwise known as the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act, was enacted. This measure provided for the creation of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), which will implement the provisions of the said law.

Despite these efforts and so much more, the Indigenous Peoples' International Center for Policy Research and Education, reported in September 2016 that "there continues to be a *serious lack of data* on the number and distribution of indigenous peoples in the Philippines." Furthermore, they observed that "credibility of the results and enumeration methodology have been questioned."

If we are to effectively address the plight of our indigenous peoples, it is imperative that we are backed with accurate information based on scientific and

reliable data. This proposed measure seeks to establish resource centers for indigenous peoples so that we can gather precise information from the ground.

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

  
**RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.**

**SENATE**

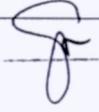
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**AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING RESOURCE CENTERS FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TO  
ENHANCE AND ENSURE DELIVERY OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES,  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

1 Section 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Resource Centers for  
2 Indigenous Peoples Act."

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

11  
12 Sec. 3. *Establishment of Resource Centers for ICC / IP.* - There shall be  
13 established IPs Resource Centers, hereinafter referred to as the "Center", in state  
14 universities and colleges in strategic locations in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao, as  
15 determined by the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), hereinafter  
16 referred to as the "Commission", taking into consideration their ethnological  
17 locations.

1           Sec. 4. *Staff and Components of the ICC / IP Resource Centers.* - The  
2 Commission shall designate in every Center a Chief Coordinating Officer, as well as  
3 staff members representing the concerned government departments and agencies.  
4

5           Sec. 5. *Composition and Functions of the Center.* - The Center shall be  
6 composed of the following three (3) major service areas and their respective  
7 functions, namely:  
8

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

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

17           (C) Domains Management Service Area – promotion of participatory  
18           programs, projects and activities for ICCs / IPs to effectively deliver their  
19           responsibility to maintain ecological balance, restore denuded areas,  
20           observe laws and the implementation of the Ancestral Domains  
21           Sustainable Development and Protections Plans and such other existing  
22           programs.  
23

24           Sec. 6. *Monitoring Progress and Implementation and Impact of this Act.* - The  
25 Commission shall submit to Congress every three (3) years or as determined in the  
26 implementing rules and regulations, an annual report of its accomplishments.  
27

28           Sec. 7. *Funding.* - The initial funding requirements for the implementation of  
29 this Act shall be charged against the current appropriations of the agencies  
30 concerned. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for its continued  
31 implementation, shall be included in the agencies' yearly budget under the General  
32 Appropriations Act.  
33

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

14  
15           Sec. 9. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, letters of instructions,  
16 resolutions, orders, ordinances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the  
17 provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

18  
19           Sec. 10. *Separability Clause.* - If any part, section or provision of this Act shall  
20 be held invalid or unconstitutional, no other part, section or provisions thereof shall  
21 be affected thereby.

22  
23           Sec. 11. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
24 publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

25  
26           Approved,