FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

First Regular Session

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SENATE

Senate Bill No. 467

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INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

R.A. 8371, otherwise known as the Indigenous People Rights Act of 1997 (IPRA) was a landmark legislation intended to address the concerns of the cultural communities and indigenous people throughout the country.

While there are some constitutional and legal questions against certain provisions of said law, the IPRA remains in effect. Under Section 64 of IPRA, the National Commission of Indigenous People (NCIP) is mandated to take appropriate actions to recover legal domains which were illegally acquired.

The NCIP is given two (2) years to perform such functions as provided for under Section 64 but the prescribed period has already expired on 22 November 1999.

This bill seeks to remedy this technical flaw in the law. Hence, it is hereby proposed that the NCIP be granted a new ten (10) year period to perform the same task as provided under Sec. 64 of the Indigenous People Rights Act.

JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

Senator

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AN ACT

GRANTING THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (NCIP) A NEW TEN (10) YEAR PERIOD WITHIN WHICH TO TAKE APPROPRIATE LEGAL ACTION FOR THE CANCELLATION OF OFFICIALLY DOCUMENTED TITLES WHICH WERE ILLEGALLY ACQUIRED, AS PROVIDED UNDER SECTION 64 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8371, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT TO RECOGNIZE, PROTECT AND PROMOTE THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS CULTURAL COMMUNITIES / INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, CREATING THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLE, ESTABLISHING IMPLEMENTING MECHANISMS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

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

SECTION 1. THE National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) is hereby granted a new ten (10) year period within which to take appropriate legal action of the cancellation of officially documented titles which were acquired illegally as provided for under Section 64 of RA Number 8371.

SEC. 2. *Effectivity*. This act shall take effect upon approval.

Approved,