



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 10643

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BY REPRESENTATIVES NAVA, BARZAGA, YAP (E.) AND BANAS-NOGRALES, PER COMMITTEE REPORT  
No. 1397

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**“AN ACT  
DECLARING A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN THE  
MUNICIPALITY OF NUEVA VALENCIA IN THE PROVINCE OF  
GUIMARAS, A PROTECTED AREA, WITH THE CATEGORY OF  
NATURAL PARK UNDER THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED  
PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM, TO BE REFERRED TO AS THE  
TAKLONG AND TANDOG GROUP OF ISLANDS NATURAL PARK,  
PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT, AND APPROPRIATING  
FUNDS THEREFOR”**

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

**ARTICLE I**

**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

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3       **SECTION 1. Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “Taklong and Tandog  
4 Group of Islands Natural Park Act”.

5       **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – Cognizant of the profound impact of  
6 human activities on all components of the natural environment, it is hereby  
7 declared the policy of the State to secure for the Filipino people of present and  
8 future generations, the perpetual existence of all native plants and animals  
9 through the declaration of protected areas under the National Integrated  
10 Protected Areas System (NIPAS) within the classification of national park as  
11 provided for in the Constitution.

12       In recognition of the richness of the biological resources, both flora and  
13 fauna, that are native and distinct to a parcel of land located in the Municipality

1 of Nueva Valencia in the Province of Guimaras, as well as their aesthetic and  
2 ecological importance, the said area is hereby declared a protected area with the  
3 category of natural park, and shall hereinafter be referred to as the Taklong and  
4 Tandog Group of Islands Natural Park (TTGINP). As such, the State shall ensure  
5 the conservation, protection, management and rehabilitation of the area. It is  
6 likewise recognized that effective administration of this area is possible only  
7 through cooperation among national government, local government units (LGUs),  
8 concerned nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), private entities and local  
9 communities. The use and enjoyment of this area must be consistent with the  
10 principles of biological diversity and sustainable development.

11 Towards this end, the State shall ensure the full implementation of this Act,  
12 the mobilization of resources for the institutional mechanisms herein established,  
13 and the full scientific and technical support needed for the conservation of  
14 biodiversity and the integrity of the ecosystems, culture and indigenous practices.

15 **SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.*** – As used in this Act:

- 16 (a) *Buffer zones* refer to identified areas outside the boundaries of and  
17 immediately adjacent to designated protected areas that need special  
18 development control in order to avoid or minimize harm to the protected  
19 area;
- 20 (b) *Conservation* refers to any act or acts of preservation and sustainable  
21 utilization of wildlife or maintenance, restoration, and enhancement of  
22 habitats;
- 23 (c) *Indigenous cultural communities (ICCs)/Indigenous peoples (IPs)* refer to  
24 groups of people sharing common bonds of language, customs, traditions,  
25 and other distinctive cultural traits, and who have, since time immemorial  
26 occupied, possessed, and utilized a territory;
- 27 (d) *National park* refers to land of the public domain classified as such in the  
28 Constitution which includes all areas under the NIPAS, primarily  
29 designated for the conservation of native plants and animals, their  
30 associated habitats and cultural diversity;
- 31 (e) *Natural park* refers to a relatively large area not materially altered by  
32 human activity where extractive resource uses are not allowed and is

1 maintained to protect outstanding natural and scenic areas of national or  
2 international significance for scientific, educational, and recreational use;

3 (f) *Protected area* refers to an identified portion of land and water set aside by  
4 reason of its unique physical and biological significance, managed to  
5 enhance biological diversity and protected against destructive human  
6 exploitation; and

7 (g) *Tenured migrants* refer to protected area occupants who have been actually,  
8 continuously and presently occupying a portion of the protected area for five  
9 (5) years before the proclamation or law establishing the same as a  
10 protected area, and are solely dependent therein for subsistence.

11 **SEC. 4. Classification as a National Park.** – The TTGINP is comprised  
12 of a parcel of land of the public domain situated in the Municipality of Nueva  
13 Valencia in the Province of Guimaras. All lands of the public domain within the  
14 coverage and scope of the TTGINP shall fall under the classification of national  
15 park as provided for in Article XII, Section 3 of the Constitution.

16 **SEC. 5. Scope and Coverage.** – The boundaries of the TTGINP are more  
17 particularly described as the area beginning at a point marked “1” on the Map,  
18 which is S 34° 41’ W, 528.49 meters from PRS 92 “GMS 3114” with geographic  
19 coordinates of 10°26’16.53” Latitude and 122°30’45.26” Longitude, situated in  
20 Barangay San Roque, Municipality of Nueva Valencia, Province of Guimaras,

21	thence	S 45°22' E	87.84	meters to corner 2;
22	thence	N 86°28' E	86.93	meters to corner 3;
23	thence	S 54°43' W	32.81	meters to corner 4;
24	thence	S 29°53' E	78.64	meters to corner 5;
25	thence	S 41°20' W	34.08	meters to corner 6;
26	thence	S 15°33' W	202.60	meters to corner 7;
27	thence	S 86°34' W	224.88	meters to corner 8;
28	thence	S 41°22' W	47.65	meters to corner 9;
29	thence	S 21°22' W	63.21	meters to corner 10;
30	thence	S 03°52' W	136.26	meters to corner 11;
31	thence	S 09°46' W	277.82	meters to corner 12;
32	thence	N 76°31' E	139.33	meters to corner 13;

1	thence	N 84°05' E	34.159	meters to corner 14;
2	thence	S 87°04' E	43.31	meters to corner 15;
3	thence	S 72°31' E	73.45	meters to corner 16;
4	thence	S 30°42' W	83.10	meters to corner 17;
5	thence	S 00°47' E	97.65	meters to corner 18;
6	thence	S 33°38' E	93.91	meters to corner 19;
7	thence	S 63°15' E	23.35	meters to corner 20;
8	thence	S 63°04' W	160.57	meters to corner 21;
9	thence	S 14°39' W	133.86	meters to corner 22;
10	thence	S 54°21' E	102.41	meters to corner 23;
11	thence	N 43°18' E	170.27	meters to corner 24;
12	thence	S 78°00' E	159.82	meters to corner 25;
13	thence	N 17°50' E	243.42	meters to corner 26;
14	thence	S 73°17' E	118.80	meters to corner 27;
15	thence	S 34°28' W	25.34	meters to corner 28;
16	thence	S 61°20' E	85.85	meters to corner 29;
17	thence	N 68°51' E	55.93	meters to corner 30;
18	thence	S 15°47' W	51.03	meters to corner 31;
19	thence	S 40°37' E	105.14	meters to corner 32;
20	thence	S 03°55' W	71.28	meters to corner 33;
21	thence	S 56°23' W	36.08	meters to corner 34;
22	thence	S 38°18' W	58.56	meters to corner 35;
23	thence	S 08°30' E	95.06	meters to corner 36;
24	thence	S 02°44' W	245.92	meters to corner 37;
25	thence	S 89°21' W	182.35	meters to corner 38;
26	thence	S 43°50' W	280.92	meters to corner 39;
27	thence	S 11°35' W	103.97	meters to corner 40;
28	thence	S 15°30' W	100.98	meters to corner 41;
29	thence	S 38°44' E	79.50	meters to corner 42;
30	thence	S 68°22' E	58.84	meters to corner 43;
31	thence	S 71°50' E	148.32	meters to corner 44;
32	thence	N 60°35' E	82.56	meters to corner 45;

1	thence	S 28°27' E	92.30	meters to corner 46;
2	thence	S 33°21' W	221.81	meters to corner 47;
3	thence	S 03°43' E	152.39	meters to corner 48;
4	thence	S 11°57' E	119.44	meters to corner 49;
5	thence	N 49°48' E	125.75	meters to corner 50;
6	thence	N 71°32' E	217.63	meters to corner 51;
7	thence	S 46°05' E	253.16	meters to corner 52;
8	thence	S 00°00' E	826.00	meters to corner 53;
9	thence	S 90°00' W	3650.00	meters to corner 54;
10	thence	N 00°00' E	3636.00	meters to corner 55;
11	thence	S 89°51' E	2785.43	meters to corner 1,

12 and comprises one thousand one hundred forty-one (1,141) hectares, more or less.

13 **SEC. 6. *Establishment of Buffer Zones.*** – The Secretary of the  
 14 Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), upon the  
 15 recommendation of the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) created under  
 16 Section 7 of this Act, may designate areas surrounding the TTGINP as buffer  
 17 zones for the purpose of providing an extra layer of protection where restrictions  
 18 may be applied: *Provided*, That, in cases where the designated buffer zone would  
 19 cover private lands, the owners thereof shall be required to design their  
 20 development with due consideration to the protected area management plan.

21 **ARTICLE II**

22 **MANAGEMENT MECHANISMS**

23 **SEC. 7. *Protected Area Management Board (PAMB).*** – Within ninety  
 24 (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, a Protected Area Management Board  
 25 (PAMB) shall be created to oversee the management of the TTGINP. The PAMB  
 26 shall be composed of the following:

- 27 (a) DENR Regional Executive Director for Region VI, as Chairperson;
- 28 (b) Governor of the Province of Guimaras, as Co-Chairperson;
- 29 (c) Senators of the Republic of the Philippines who are duly registered  
 30 residents of the Province of Guimaras, or their duly designated  
 31 representatives, unless the Senators decline the membership in the  
 32 PAMB;

- 1 (d) District Representatives of the Congressional Districts where the  
2 TTGINP is located, or their duly designated representatives, unless the  
3 District Representatives decline the membership in the PAMB;
- 4 (e) Mayor of the Municipality of Nueva Valencia in the Province of  
5 Guimaras, or a duly authorized representative;
- 6 (f) Chairpersons of all the *barangays* with territorial jurisdiction over the  
7 TTGINP;
- 8 (g) Regional Directors of the following government agencies, namely:  
9 Department of Agriculture (DA), National Economic and Development  
10 Authority (NEDA), Department of Science and Technology (DOST),  
11 Philippine National Police (PNP), Department of National Defense  
12 (DND) and Department of Tourism (DOT);
- 13 (h) Three (3) representatives from either NGOs or people's organizations  
14 (POs), based in the Province of Guimaras, duly accredited both by the  
15 DENR and the provincial government. The NGOs or POs represented  
16 should have been in existence for at least five (5) years and with track  
17 record in or related to protected area management;
- 18 (i) At least one (1) but not more than three (3) representatives from all the  
19 ICC/ IP present in the area and recognized by the National Commission  
20 on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP);
- 21 (j) One (1) representative from an academic institution, preferably from a  
22 university or college in the Province of Guimaras, with proven track  
23 record in or related to protected area management; and
- 24 (k) One (1) representative from the private sector, preferably a resident of  
25 the Province of Guimaras, who is distinguished in a profession or field  
26 of interest relevant to the protected area management.

27 The terms of office of members of the PAMB, as well as the grounds for  
28 their removal shall be in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act No. 7586,  
29 otherwise known as the "National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 1992"  
30 as amended by Republic Act No. 11038, otherwise known as the "Expanded  
31 National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 2018".

32 **SEC. 8. *Functions of the PAMB.*** – The PAMB shall have the following

1 powers and functions:

- 2 (a) Oversee the management of the TTGINP;
- 3 (b) Approve policies, plans and programs, proposals, agreements, and other  
4 related documents for the management of the TTGINP;
- 5 (c) Approve the management plan of the TTGINP and ensure its  
6 harmonization with and integration into the Ancestral Domain Sustainable  
7 Development and Protection Plan, land use plan and other development  
8 plans, public or private, and their implementation;
- 9 (d) Adopt a manual of operations to include rules of procedures in the conduct  
10 of business, and the creation of committees and their respective terms of  
11 reference;
- 12 (e) Recommend the deputation of appropriate agencies and individuals for the  
13 enforcement of the laws, rules and regulations governing the management  
14 of the TTGINP;
- 15 (f) Allocate financial resources for the implementation of the management plan  
16 and manage the Protected Area Retention Income Account and other funds  
17 in accordance with government accounting, budgeting, and auditing rules  
18 and regulations;
- 19 (g) Set fees and charges in accordance with existing guidelines;
- 20 (h) Issue rules and regulations for the resolution of conflicts through  
21 appropriate and effective means;
- 22 (i) Recommend appropriate policy changes to the DENR and other government  
23 authorities with respect to the management of the TTGINP;
- 24 (j) Monitor and assess the performance of the Protected Area Superintendent  
25 (PASu) and other protected area personnel and compliance of partners with  
26 the terms and conditions of any undertaking, contract or agreement relative  
27 to any project or activity within the TTGINP;
- 28 (k) Recommend from among a shortlist of qualified candidates, the designation  
29 or appointment of the PASu; and
- 30 (l) Assess the effectiveness of the management of the TTGINP: *Provided, That*  
31 *the members of the PAMB representing the LGUs and national agencies*  
32 *shall inform their respective constituents, offices or sectors, of PAMB-*

1 approved or other relevant policies, rules, regulations, programs, and  
2 projects and shall ensure that the provisions of this Act and the rules and  
3 regulations issued to implement it are complied with and used as reference  
4 and framework in their respective plans, policies, programs, and projects.  
5 Failure to comply with the foregoing shall be the basis for disciplinary  
6 action against such member according to administrative rules and  
7 regulations and such penalties as the PAMB may provide: *Provided,*  
8 *further,* That the DENR, through the Regional Director, shall ensure that  
9 the PAMB acts within the scope of its powers and functions. In case of  
10 conflict between the resolutions issued by the PAMB and the existing  
11 administrative orders of national application, the latter shall prevail.

12 **SEC. 9. *The Protected Area Management Office (PAMO).*** – There is  
13 hereby established a Protected Area Management Office (PAMO) to be headed by  
14 a Protected Area Superintendent (PASu) who shall supervise the day to day  
15 management, protection, and administration of the TTGINP. The PASu shall hold  
16 a permanent plantilla position and shall be appointed by the DENR Secretary. A  
17 sufficient number of support staff with permanent plantilla positions shall  
18 likewise be appointed by the DENR Secretary to assist the PASu in the  
19 management of the TTGINP: *Provided,* That in the appointment of all PAMO staff,  
20 highly qualified residents of the Province of Guimaras, living proximate to the  
21 TTGINP, shall be given priority.

22 The PASu shall be primarily accountable to the PAMB and the DENR for  
23 the management and operations of the TTGINP. Pursuant thereto, the PASu shall  
24 have the following duties and responsibilities:

- 25 (a) Prepare the management plan, in consultation with the stakeholders,  
26 including the annual work and financial plan and ensure its  
27 implementation;
- 28 (b) Ensure the integration of the TTGINP management plans, programs,  
29 projects, and policies with relevant national and LGUs' plans and programs;
- 30 (c) Provide secretariat services to the PAMB and its committees and ensure the  
31 availability of relevant and timely information for decision-making;



- 1 (d) Formulate and recommend to the PAMB proposed policies, rules,  
2 regulations, and programs;
- 3 (e) Establish, operate, and maintain a database management system which  
4 shall be an important basis for decision-making;
- 5 (f) Enforce the laws, rules and regulations relevant to the TTGINP, commence  
6 and institute administrative and legal actions in collaboration with other  
7 government agencies or organizations, and assist in the prosecution of  
8 offenses committed in violation of the provisions of this Act;
- 9 (g) Monitor, evaluate, and report the implementation of management activities  
10 of the TTGINP;
- 11 (h) Request for and receive any technical assistance, support or advice from any  
12 agency or instrumentality of the government as well as academic  
13 institutions, NGOs, and the private sector, as may be necessary for the  
14 effective management, protection and administration of the TTGINP;
- 15 (i) Issue permits and clearances for activities that implement the management  
16 plan and other permitted activities in accordance with terms, conditions,  
17 and criteria established by the PAMB: *Provided*, That all permits for  
18 extraction of natural resources, including collection of wildlife, and its by-  
19 products or derivatives for research purposes, shall continue to be issued by  
20 relevant authorities, subject to prior clearance from the PAMB, through the  
21 PASu, in accordance with the specific acts to be covered;
- 22 (j) Collect and receive pertinent fees, charges, donations, and other income for  
23 the TTGINP: *Provided*, That such fees, charges, donations, and other income  
24 collected and received shall be reported regularly to the PAMB and the  
25 DENR in accordance with existing guidelines;
- 26 (k) Prepare and recommend to the PAMB, approval of the annual work and  
27 financial plans of the TTGINP based on the management plan; and
- 28 (l) Perform such other functions as the PAMB and the DENR may assign.

29 The PAMO may be augmented by the deputized local environment and  
30 natural resources officers upon the recommendation of the PAMB and approval of  
31 the DENR.

1 **ARTICLE III**

2 **PROCEEDS AND FEES**

3 **SEC. 10. *The Taklong and Tandog Group of Islands Natural Park***  
4 ***Integrated Protected Area Fund.*** – There is hereby established a trust fund to  
5 be known as the Taklong and Tandog Group of Islands Natural Park Integrated  
6 Protected Area Fund (TTGINP-IPAF) for purposes of financing projects of the  
7 TTGINP and the NIPAS. All income generated from the operation and  
8 management of wild flora and fauna in the TTGINP shall accrue to the TTGINP-  
9 IPAF. The income shall be derived from fees from permitted sale and export of  
10 flora and fauna and other resources from the TTGINP, proceeds from lease of  
11 multiple-use areas, contributions from industries and facilities directly benefiting  
12 from the TTGINP, and such other fees and income derived from the operation of  
13 the TTGINP.

14 The PAMB shall retain seventy-five percent (75%) of all revenues raised  
15 through the above means, which shall be deposited in the Protected Area-Retained  
16 Income Account (PA-RIA) in any authorized government depository bank within  
17 the locality: *Provided*, That disbursements out of such deposits shall be used solely  
18 for the protection, maintenance, administration, and management of the TTGINP  
19 and implementation of duly approved projects of the PAMB. The remaining  
20 twenty-five percent (25%) of revenues shall be deposited as a special account in  
21 the general fund in the National Treasury for purposes of financing the programs  
22 and projects of the NIPAS.

23 The fund may be augmented by grants, donations, endowment from various  
24 sources, domestic or foreign: *Provided*, That the fund shall be deposited in full as  
25 a special account in the National Treasury and disbursements therefrom shall be  
26 made solely for the protection, maintenance, administration and management of  
27 the NIPAS and duly approved projects endorsed by the PAMB in accordance with  
28 existing accounting, budgeting and auditing rules and regulations: *Provided*,  
29 *further*, That the fund shall not be used to cover personal services expenditures.

30 The LGUs shall continue to impose and collect all other fees not enumerated  
31 herein which they have traditionally collected, such as business permits, property  
32 tax and rentals of LGUs' facilities.

1 **ARTICLE IV**

2 **TRANSITORY AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

3 **SEC. 11. Appropriations.** – The Secretary of the DENR shall immediately  
4 include in the Department’s program the implementation of this Act, the funding  
5 of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

6 **SEC. 12. Suppletory Application of the NIPAS Law.** – The provisions  
7 of Republic Act No. 7586 as amended by Republic Act No. 11038, shall have  
8 suppletory application to this Act.

9 **SEC. 13. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within ninety (90)  
10 days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DENR shall, in  
11 consultation with the local government of the Municipality Nueva Valencia, the  
12 provincial government of Guimaras, and concerned national government agencies,  
13 issue the corresponding rules and regulations for the effective implementation of  
14 this Act.

15 **SEC. 14. Separability Clause.** – If any section or provision of this Act is  
16 held unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining sections or provisions not affected  
17 thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

18 **SEC. 15. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, letters of instruction,  
19 executive orders, rules and regulations and other issuances or parts thereof  
20 inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

21 **SEC. 16. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
22 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation

Approved,