

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



'22 JUL 18 A10 :09

**SENATE**

S. No. 688

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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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**

**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, the 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.

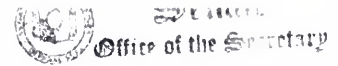
Despite these efforts and so much more, the Indigenous Peoples' International Center for Policy Research and Education, reported in September 2016 that "there continues to be a *serious lack of data* on the number and distribution of indigenous peoples in the Philippines." Furthermore, they observed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

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

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

15

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

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

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

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

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

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

27          Sec. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - Within ninety (90) days after  
28 the approval of this Act, the Commission, in coordination with the following concerned  
29 government agencies, to wit: Local Government Units (LGUs), the Philippines Statistics  
30 Authority (PSA), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Technical  
31 Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Department of Education  
32 (DepEd). Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Commission on Human Rights

1 (CHR), Department of Justice (DOJ), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE),  
2 Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Health (DOH), Department  
3 of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Agriculture (DA), Land  
4 Management Bureau (LMB), Land Registration Authority (LRA), and such other  
5 concerned agencies, shall issue the necessary Rules and Regulations for the effective  
6 implementation of this Act.

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

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

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

*Approved,*