

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



'22 AUG 15 P5:23

SENATE
S. B. No. 1167

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by Senator SONNY ANGARA

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

EXPLANATORY NOTE

There are 14-17 million estimated indigenous cultural communities (ICCs) and indigenous peoples (Ips) mainly concentrated in Northern Luzon (33%) and in Mindanao (61%). The Constitution mandates that the State shall recognize, protect, promote and fulfill the rights of the indigenous peoples.

In 1997, Republic Act No. 8371 or the '*Indigenous Peoples Rights Act*' (IPRA) was enacted fulfilling the State's constitutional duty to recognize the millions of ICCs and IPs in the country. However, despite the IPRA and the various international aids given to them, ICCs and IPs remain among the most disadvantaged and poorest in our country. In fact, according to the World Bank, while Indigenous Peoples comprise only 6 percent of the global population, they account for nearly 20 percent of world's extreme poor.

Government has to remedy the miserable conditions of our ICCs and IPs. It is imperative to establish Resource Centers in all ICCs/IPs which are ethnographically located as determined by the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP). These centers shall enhance the delivery of basic, social, technical and legal services to the ICCs and IPs. Therefore, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

SONNY ANGARA
70

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Be it enacted by the Senate and the 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 of 2022.*"

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

10 Sec. 3. *Establishment of Resource Centers for ICCs/IPs.* – There shall be
11 established ICCs/IPs Resource Centers, hereinafter referred to as the "Center", in
12 strategic places as determined by the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples
13 (NCIP), hereinafter referred to as the "Commission", taking into consideration their
14 ethnological locations.

15 Sec. 4. *Staff and Components of the ICC/IP Resource Centers.* – The
16 Commission shall designate in every Center a Chief Coordinating Officer. Concerned

1 government departments and agencies and local governments shall assign staff
2 members to the Resource Centers.

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

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

9 (b) Human Development Index Service Area - addresses problems of ICCs/IPs and
10 provide basic and necessary services through link-ups with concerned
11 government department and agencies, such as training programs, grant of
12 scholarships, employment, livelihood and enterprises and health services; and

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

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

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

25 Sec. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* – Within ninety (90) days
26 after the approval of this Act, the Commission, in coordination with the following
27 concerned government agencies, to wit: Local Government Units (LGUs), Philippine
28 Statistics Authority (PSA), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD),
29 Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Department of
30 Education (DepEd), Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Commission on Human
31 Rights (CHR), Department of Justice (DOJ), Department of Labor and Employment
32 (DOLE), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Health (DOH),

1 Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Agriculture
2 (DA), Land Management Bureau (LMB), Land Registration Authority (LRA), and such
3 other concerned agencies, shall issue the necessary Rules and Regulations for the
4 effective implementation of this Act.

5 Sec. 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any portion or provision of this Act is
6 subsequently declared invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions hereof which are
7 not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

8 Sec. 10. *Repealing Clause.* – All other laws, acts, presidential decrees, executive
9 orders, presidential proclamations, issuances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof
10 which are contrary to or inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby
11 repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

12 Sec. 11. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
13 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,