

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

10 SEP 28 P1:42

SENATE
S.B. No. 2543

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by: SEN. RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Our country is well known for the rich natural resources unique to us such as our flora and fauna. Great lawmakers that came ahead of us have realized the importance of providing for the protection of these resources and have thus created Republic Act 7586 otherwise known as the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act as well as the Integrated Protected Areas Fund (IPAF) created in support to the NIPAS Act.

Stemming from review and assessment of the efficacy and implementation of abovementioned measure, I feel that there is a need to amend and improve certain provisions in the measure in order to make it more comprehensive and to streamline the process of accessing the funds generated from revenue. At present, the process of accessing the funds which are rightfully for utilization of the NIPA System takes months and projects are sometimes delayed to due to unavailability of funds.

I believe it is our duty as legislators to revisit this law and to strengthen this important piece of legislation. It is for these reasons that I urge my colleagues for the passage of this proposed amendment at the soonest possible time.

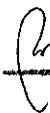

RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
10 SEP 28 P1:42

SENATE

S.B. No. 2543

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by: SEN. RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

**“AN ACT
AMENDING SECTION 16 OF THE REPUBLIC ACT 7586 OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS
SYSTEM ACT OF 1992”**

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

SECTION 1. Section 16 of the Republic Act 7586 is hereby amended to
read as follows:

SEC. 16. Integrated Protected Areas Fund – there is hereby
established a trust fund to be known as Integrated Protected Areas
(IPAS) Fund for purposes of financing projects of the System. The
IPAS may solicit and receive donations, endowments and grants in
the form of contributions and such endowments shall be exempted
from income or gift taxes and all other taxes, charges or fees
imposed by the government or any political subdivision or
instrumentality thereof.

All incomes generated from the operation of the System or
management of wild flora and fauna shall accrue to the Fund (and
may be utilized directly by the DENR for the above purpose.),
**SUBJECT TO RETENTION BY THE BOARD OF EACH
PROTECTED AREA UP TO FIFTY PERCENT (50%) OF ALL THE
REVENUES RAISED THEREFROM.** These incomes shall be
derived from:

- (a) Taxes from the permitted sale and export of flora and fauna
and other resources from protected areas;
- (b) Proceeds from lease of multiple-use areas;

- (c) Contributions from industries and facilities directly benefiting from the protected areas; and
- (d) Such other fees and incomes derived from the operation of the protected area.

THE FUND INCLUDING ALL DONATIONS, GRANTS, ENDOWMENTS FROM VARIOUS SOURCES AND OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS SHALL BE DEPOSITED IN ANY GOVERNMENT BANK WITHIN THE LOCALITY WHERE EACH PROTECTED AREA IS LOCATED, PROVIDED, THAT IF THERE IS NO GOVERNMENT BANK AVAILABLE IN THE LOCALITY, AN ACCOUNT SHALL BE OPENED IN A GOVERNMENT BANK NEAREST TO THE LOCALITY.

Disbursements from the Fund shall be made solely for the protection, maintenance, administration and management of the System, and duly approved projects endorsed by the (PAMBs , in the amounts authorized by the DENR.) **DENR IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXISTING ACCOUNTING, BUDGETING AND AUDITING RULES AND REGULATIONS, PROVIDED THAT THE FUND SHALL NOT BE USED TO COVER PERSONAL SERVICES EXPENDITURES.**

SEC. 2. *Separability Clause.* - If any part of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration shall not affect the other parts of this Act.

SEC. 3. *Repealing Clause.* – Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7586 and all laws, acts, presidential decrees, executive orders, administrative orders, rules and regulations inconsistent herewith or contrary to the provisions of this Act are deemed amended, modified or repealed accordingly.

SEC. 4. *Effectivity Clause* - this act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,