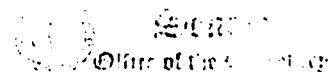


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



'21 JUN -3 A11 :40

SENATE

S. No. 2278

RECEIVED BY _____

Introduced by **SENATOR CYNTHIA A. VILLAR**

AN ACT

DECLARING A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF KABAYAN, BOKOD AND BUGUIAS, IN THE PROVINCE OF BENGUET, IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TINOC, PROVINCE OF IFUGAO, AND IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF KAYAPA IN THE PROVINCE OF NUEVA VIZCAYA, A PROTECTED AREA, WITH THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPE UNDER THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM (NIPAS), TO BE REFERRED TO AS THE MT. PULAG PROTECTED LANDSCAPE, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Under the 1987 Philippine Constitution, it is a declared state policy that the State ¹ shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature." In line with safeguarding a healthful ecology, the Constitution likewise provides that Congress shall determine the national parks, which shall be conserved and may not be increased nor diminished, except by law.²

Pursuant to the said constitutional provisions, the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) was established by virtue of Republic Act (RA) No. 7586, as amended by RA No. 11038, otherwise known as the "Expanded NIPAS Act

¹ Article II, Section 16, 1987 Philippine Constitution

² Article XII, Sec. 3, 1987 Philippine Constitution

of 2018". Cognizant of the exacting impact of diverse human activities on all components of the natural environment, the NIPAS Act declared it the policy of the State "to secure for the Filipino people of present and future generations the perpetual existence of all native plants and animals through the establishment of a comprehensive system of integrated protected areas within the classification of national park as provided for in the Constitution." The system shall encompass ecologically rich, unique and biologically important areas that are habitats of threatened species of plants and animals, biogeographic zones and related ecosystems, whether terrestrial, wetland or marine, all of which shall be designated as 'protected areas'.³

Presently, there are already 107 protected areas in the Philippines that have been so declared through legislation. And yet, based on the records and various suitability assessments by the Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), there are still numerous sites in the country that have to be given 'protected area' status, by legislative action, in order to ensure its conservation.

Mt. Pulag National Park lies on the north and south spine of the Grand Cordillera Central that stretches from Pasaleng, Ilocos Norte to the Cordillera Provinces. It falls within the administrative jurisdiction of two (2) Regions: Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) and Cagayan Valley (R2). Mt. Pulag National Park is the highest peak in Luzon and is the second highest mountain in the Philippines with an elevation of 2,922 m. above sea level. The Park has a large diversity of flora and fauna, many of which are endemic to the mountain. Its wildlife includes threatened mammals such as the Philippine Brown Deer, Northern Luzon Giant Cloud Rat and the Luzon Pygmy Fruit Bat. One can also find several orchid species some of which are possibly endemic to Mt. Pulag, and other rare flora such as the pitcher plant.⁴ Mt. Pulag is an important watershed providing the water necessities of many stakeholders for domestic and industrial use, irrigation, hydroelectric power production and aquaculture, it is deemed relative that the state shall ensure the

³ Section 2, RA No. 7586, as amended by RA 11038

⁴ <https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/5030/>

protection and conservation of Mt. Pulag Protected Landscapes as a protected area in order to preserve its biological diversity, the uniqueness of its landscapes and its socio-cultural and economic significance for the benefit and enjoyment of the people in the province of Benguet, Nueva Vizcaya, and Ifugao. Consequently, the State shall strengthen institutional mechanisms for the mobilization of resources to provide adequate scientific and technical support for the conservation of biodiversity and the integrity of the ecosystems, cultures and spiritual practices.

This bill seeks to declare the Mt. Pulag Protected Landscape in some portions of the municipalities of Kabayan, Bokod, and Buguias, all in the province of Benguet; portions of Tinoc, Ifugao; and Kayapa, Nueva Vizcaya as a protected area under the category of protected landscape providing for its management and for other purposes.

The bill aims to protect the forest reserve and manage the watershed of the Mt. Pulag Protected Landscape which is the primary source of water several adjacent provinces. The watershed is characterized by a moderate to intensive forest cover in a mountainous topography. It is essential to support varieties of flora and fauna with its terrestrial ecology. This crucial protected landscape requires legal protection to assure its survival and sustainability.

This is the Senate counterpart measure of HB 9325 principally authored by Hon. Solomon R. Chungalao, the Representative of the Lone District of Ifugao.

In view of the foregoing, I recommend the approval of this measure.


CYNTHIA A. VILLAR

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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SENATE
Office of the Secretary

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SENATE

RECEIVED BY



S. No. 2278

Introduced by **SENATOR CYNTHIA A. VILLAR**

AN ACT

DECLARING A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF KABAYAN, BOKOD AND BUGUIAS, IN THE PROVINCE OF BENGUET, IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TINOC, PROVINCE OF IFUGAO AND IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF KAYAPA IN THE PROVINCE OF NUEVA VIZCAYA, A PROTECTED AREA, WITH THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPE UNDER THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM (NIPAS), TO BE REFERRED TO AS THE MT. PULAG PROTECTED LANDSCAPE, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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 "Mt. Pulag Protected
2 Landscape Act".

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

1 In recognition of the richness of the biological resources, both flora and
2 fauna, that are native and distinct to Mt. Pulag, as well as their aesthetic and
3 ecological importance, a parcel of land located in the Municipalities of Kabayan,
4 Bokoc and Buguias, in the Province of Benguet, Municipality of Tinoc, in the
5 Province of Ifugao, and Municipality of Kayapa, in the Province of Nueva Vizcaya, is
6 hereby declared a protected area with the category of protected landscape, and
7 shall hereinafter be referred to as the Mt. Pulag Protected Landscape (MPPL). As
8 such, the State shall ensure the conservation, protection, management and
9 rehabilitation of the area. It is likewise recognized that effective administration of
10 this area is possible only through cooperation among national government, local
11 government units (LGUs), concerned nongovernmental organizations (NGOs),
12 private entities and local communities. The use and enjoyment of this area must be
13 consistent with the principles of biological diversity and sustainable development.

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

18 **Sec. 3. *Definition of Terms.*** – As used in this Act:

- 19 a) *Buffer zones* refer to identified areas outside the boundaries of and
20 immediately adjacent to designated protected areas that need special
21 development control in order to avoid or minimize harm to the
22 protected area;
- 23 b) *Conservation* refers to any act or acts of preservation and sustainable
24 utilization of wildlife or maintenance, restoration and enhancement of
25 habitats;
- 26 c) *Indigenous Cultural Communities (ICCs)/Indigenous Peoples (IPs)*
27 refer to groups of people sharing common bonds of language,
28 customs, traditions, and other distinctive cultural traits, and who have,
29 since time immemorial occupied, possessed and utilized a territory;

- 1 d) *National park* refers to land of the public domain classified as such in
2 the Constitution which includes all areas under the NIPAS, primarily
3 designated for the conservation of native plants and animals, their
4 associated habitats and cultural diversity;
- 5 e) *Protected area* refers to an identified portion of land and water set
6 aside by reason of its unique physical and biological significance,
7 managed to enhance biological diversity and protected against
8 destructive human exploitation;
- 9 f) *Protected landscape* refers to an area where the interaction of people
10 and nature over a period of time has produced an area of distinct
11 character with significant ecological, biological, cultural and scenic
12 value and where the safeguarding of the integrity of this interaction is
13 vital to protecting and sustaining the area and its associated nature
14 conservation and other values; and
- 15 g) *Tenured migrants* refer to protected area occupants who have been
16 actually, continuously and presently occupying a portion of the
17 protected area for five (5) years before the proclamation or law
18 establishing the same as a protected area, and are solely dependent
19 therein for subsistence.

20 **Sec. 4. *Classification as a National Park.*** – The MPPL is comprised of a parcel
21 of land of the public domain located in the Municipalities of Kabayan, Bokod and
22 Buguias, in the Province of Benguet, Municipality of Tinoc, in the Province of Ifugao,
23 and Municipality of Kayapa, in the Province of Nueva Vizcaya. All lands of the public
24 domain within the coverage and scope of the MPPL shall fall under the classification
25 of national park as provided for in Article XII, Section 3 of the Constitution.

26 **Sec. 5. *Scope and Coverage.*** – The boundaries of the MPPL are more
27 particularly described as the area beginning at a point marked "1" on plan, which is
28 S 75°34'16" E, 1,342.652 meters from BBM No. 07 with geographic coordinates of

1 16°36'28.09490491" Latitude and 120°50'26.02534396" Longitude located at
2 Barangay Duacan, Municipality of Kabayan, Province of Benguet,

3	thence	N 26°02'04" E	4,333.50	meters to corner 2;
4	thence	N 13°11'24" E	3,330.69	meters to corner 3;
5	thence	N 26°21'52" W	887.241	meters to corner 4;
6	thence	N 30°06'56" W	3930.35	meters to corner 5;
7	thence	S 81°22'11" E	113.284	meters to corner 6;
8	thence	S 22°49'03" E	157.302	meters to corner 7;
9	thence	N 70°05'51" E	185.055	meters to corner 8;
10	thence	S 68°56'36" E	200.383	meters to corner 9;
11	thence	N 77°29'44" E	263.248	meters to corner 10;
12	thence	N 82°59'16" E	1900.24	meters to corner 11;
13	thence	S 69°55'33" E	1,911.13	meters to corner 12;
14	thence	S 46°37'44" E	2,839.42	meters to corner 13;
15	thence	S 20°49'59" E	2,238.22	meters to corner 14;
16	thence	S 19°51'23" E	76.547	meters to corner 15;
17	thence	S 66°15'07" E	54.626	meters to corner 16;
18	thence	S 26°45'32" E	133.265	meters to corner 17;
19	thence	S 13°23'36" W	43.172	meters to corner 18;
20	thence	S 36°15'21" E	446.412	meters to corner 19;
21	thence	S 78°59'50" E	36.675	meters to corner 20;
22	thence	S 12°44'46" E	86.118	meters to corner 21;
23	thence	S 40°32'05" E	90.783	meters to corner 22;
24	thence	S 57°05'48" E	40.497	meters to corner 23;
25	thence	S 10°50'28" E	47.851	meters to corner 24;
26	thence	S 73°41'34" E	238.602	meters to corner 25;
27	thence	S 10°05'54" E	74.145	meters to corner 26;
28	thence	N 85°05'35" E	198.731	meters to corner 27;
29	thence	S 71°33'58" E	75.895	meters to corner 28;
30	thence	N 24°35'30" E	64.882	meters to corner 29;
31	thence	S 83°57'23" E	170.953	meters to corner 30;

1	thence	N 43°19'02" E	144.309	meters to corner 31;
2	thence	N 75°04'11" E	124.195	meters to corner 32;
3	thence	S 21°35'48" E	154.864	meters to corner 33;
4	thence	S 46°41'12" E	48.103	meters to corner 34;
5	thence	S 68°39'20" E	93.408	meters to corner 35;
6	thence	S 07°28'20" E	61.519	meters to corner 36;
7	thence	S 36°06'41" W	256.214	meters to corner 37;
8	thence	S 09°27'47" W	109.484	meters to corner 38;
9	thence	N 85°56'27" W	155.392	meters to corner 39;
10	thence	S 38°07'02" W	230.048	meters to corner 40;
11	thence	S 35°52'04" E	182.622	meters to corner 41;
12	thence	S 61°20'59" W	110.535	meters to corner 42;
13	thence	S 03°22'00" E	170.285	meters to corner 43;
14	thence	S 17°31'03" E	2,209.35	meters to corner 44;
15	thence	S 19°04'31" W	4,394.05	meters to corner 45;
16	thence	N 69°07'20" E	103.818	meters to corner 46;
17	thence	N 41°51'42" E	567.938	meters to corner 47;
18	thence	S 75°35'56" E	270.378	meters to corner 48;
19	thence	N 58°13'08" E	262.478	meters to corner 49;
20	thence	S 62°51'17" E	440.528	meters to corner 50;
21	thence	S 75°07'10" E	147.964	meters to corner 51;
22	thence	N 84°19'48" E	141.695	meters to corner 52;
23	thence	S 26°57'38" E	130.137	meters to corner 53;
24	thence	S 32°42'43" W	3697.21	meters to corner 54;
25	thence	S 03°41'00" W	2,241.51	meters to corner 55;
26	thence	S 42°19'10" W	528.775	meters to corner 56;
27	thence	S 20°14'15" E	251.514	meters to corner 57;
28	thence	N 80°42'25" W	4018.8	meters to corner 58;
29	thence	N 36°22'57" W	1,589.96	meters to corner 59;
30	thence	N 36°03'09" W	909.065	meters to corner 60;
31	thence	N 36°52'15" W	1,334.81	meters to corner 61;

1 thence N 15°03'51" E 2381.72 meters to corner 62;
 2 thence N 18°28'8" W 1,104.85 meters to corner 63;
 3 thence N 83°38'31" W 1,390.57 meters to corner 1;
 4 and comprises eleven thousand five hundred eighty and 35/100 (11,580.35)
 5 hectares, more or less.

6 Sec. 6. *Establishment of Buffer Zones.* – The DENR Secretary, upon the
 7 recommendation of the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) created under
 8 Section 7 of this Act, may designate areas surrounding the MPPL as buffer zones for
 9 the purpose of providing an extra layer of protection where restrictions may be
 10 applied: *Provided,* That, in cases where the designated buffer zone would cover
 11 private lands, the owners thereof shall be required to design their development with
 12 due consideration to the protected area management plan.

13
 14

ARTICLE II MANAGEMENT MECHANISMS

15 Sec. 7. *Protected Area Management Board (PAMB).* – Within ninety (90) days
 16 from the effectivity of this Act, a Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) shall be
 17 created to oversee the management of the MPPL. The PAMB shall be composed of
 18 the following:

- 19 a) DENR Regional Directors for Cordillera Autonomous Region (CAR) and
 20 Region II, as Chairpersons;
- 21 b) Governors of the Provinces of Benguet, Ifugao and Nueva Vizcaya or
 22 their duly authorized representatives;
- 23 c) Senators of the Republic of the Philippines who are duly registered
 24 residents of the Provinces of Benguet, Ifugao or Nueva Vizcaya, or
 25 their duly designated representatives, unless the Senators decline the
 26 membership in the PAMB;
- 27 d) District Representatives of the Congressional Districts where the MPPL
 28 is located, or their duly designated representatives, unless the District
 29 Representatives decline the membership in the PAMB;

- 1 e) Mayors of the Municipalities of Kabayan, Bokod and Buguias, in the
2 Province of Benguet, Municipality of Tinoc, in the Province of Ifugao,
3 and Municipality of Kayapa, in the Province of Nueva Vizcaya, or their
4 duly authorized representatives;
- 5 f) Chairpersons of the all the barangays with territorial jurisdiction over
6 the MPPL;
- 7 g) Regional Directors of the following government agencies, namely: the
8 Department of Agriculture (DA), the National Economic and
9 Development Authority (NEDA), the Department of Science and
10 Technology (DOST), the Philippine National Police (PNP), and the
11 Department of National Defense (DND);
- 12 h) Three (3) representatives from either NGOs or people's organizations
13 (POs), based in the Province of Benguet, Ifugao or Nueva Vizcaya,
14 duly accredited both by the DENR and the provincial government. The
15 NGO or PO represented should have been in existence for at least five
16 (5) years and must have a record of accomplishments in the field of
17 protected area management;
- 18 i) At least one (1) but not more than three (3) representatives from all
19 the ICC/IP present in the area and recognized by the National
20 Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP);
- 21 j) One (1) representative from an academic institution, preferably from a
22 university or college in the Province of Benguet, Ifugao, or Nueva
23 Vizcaya, with a record of accomplishments in or related to protected
24 area management; and
- 25 k) One (1) representative from the private sector, preferably a resident of
26 the Province of Benguet, Ifugao, or Nueva Vizcaya, who is
27 distinguished in a profession or field of interest relevant to the
28 protected area management.

29 The terms of office of members of the PAMB, as well as the grounds for their
30 removal shall be in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act No. 7586,

1 otherwise known as the "National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 1992",
2 as amended by Republic Act No. 11038, otherwise known as the "Expanded National
3 Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 2018".

4 *Sec. 8. Functions of the PAMB.* – The PAMB shall have the following powers
5 and functions:

- 6 a) Oversee the management of the protected area;
- 7 b) Approve policies, plans and programs, proposals, agreements, and
8 other related documents for the management of the protected areas;
- 9 c) Approve the management plan of the protected area and ensure its
10 harmonization with and integration into the Ancestral Domain
11 Sustainable Development and Protection Plan, land use plan and other
12 development plans, public or private, and their implementation;
- 13 d) Adopt a manual of operations to include rules of procedures in the
14 conduct of business, and the creation of committees and their
15 respective terms of reference;
- 16 e) Recommend the deputation of appropriate agencies and individuals for
17 the enforcement of the laws, rules and regulations governing the
18 management of the protected area;
- 19 f) Allocate financial resources for the implementation of the management
20 plan and manage the Protected Area Retention Income Account and
21 other funds in accordance with government accounting, budgeting and
22 auditing rules and regulations;
- 23 g) Set fees and charges in accordance with existing guidelines;
- 24 h) Issue rules and regulations for the resolution of conflicts through
25 appropriate and effective means;
- 26 i) Recommend appropriate policy changes to the DENR and other
27 government authorities with respect to the management of the MPPL;

- 1 j) Monitor and assess the performance of the Protected Area
2 Superintendent (PASu) and other protected area personnel and
3 compliance of partners with the terms and conditions of any
4 undertaking, contract or agreement relative to any project or activity
5 within the MPPL;
- 6 k) Recommend from among a shortlist of qualified candidates, the
7 designation or appointment of the PASu; and
- 8 l) Assess the effectiveness of the management of the protected area:
9 *Provided*, That the members of the PAMB representing the LGUs and
10 national agencies shall inform their respective constituents, offices or
11 sectors, of PAMB-approved or other relevant policies, rules,
12 regulations, programs, and projects and shall ensure that the
13 provisions of this Act and the rules and regulations issued to
14 implement are complied with and used as reference and framework in
15 their respective plans, policies, programs, and projects. Failure to
16 comply with the foregoing shall be the basis for disciplinary action
17 against such member according to administrative rules and regulations
18 and such penalties as the PAMB may provide: *Provided, further*, That
19 the DENR, through the Regional Director, shall ensure that the PAMB
20 acts within the scope of its powers and functions. In case of conflict
21 between the resolutions issued by the PAMB and the existing
22 administrative orders of national application, the latter shall prevail.

23 Sec. 9. *The Protected Area Management Office (PAMO)*. – There is hereby
24 established a Protected Area Management Office (PAMO) to be headed by a
25 Protected Area Superintendent (PASu) who shall supervise the day to day
26 management, protection, and administration of the MPPL. The PASu shall hold a
27 permanent plantilla position and shall be appointed by the DENR Secretary. A
28 sufficient number of support staff with permanent plantilla positions shall likewise be
29 appointed by the DENR Secretary to assist the PASu in the management of the
30 protected area.

1 The PASu shall be primarily accountable to the PAMB and the DENR for the
2 management and operations of the MPPL. Pursuant thereto, the PASu shall have the
3 following duties and responsibilities:

- 4 a) Prepare the management plan, in consultation with the stakeholders,
5 including the annual work and financial plan and ensure its
6 implementation;
- 7 b) Ensure the integration of the protected area management plans,
8 programs, projects, and policies with relevant national and LGUs' plans
9 and programs;
- 10 c) Provide secretariat services to the PAMB and its committees and
11 ensure the availability of relevant and timely information for decision-
12 making;
- 13 d) Formulate and recommend to the PAMB proposed policies, rules,
14 regulations, and programs;
- 15 e) Establish, operate, and maintain a database management system
16 which shall be an important basis for decision-making;
- 17 f) Enforce the laws, rules and regulations relevant to the protected area,
18 commence and institute administrative and legal actions in
19 collaboration with other government agencies or organizations, and
20 assist in the prosecution of offenses committed in violation of the
21 provisions of this Act;
- 22 g) Monitor, evaluate, and report the implementation of management
23 activities of the protected area;
- 24 h) Request for and receive any technical assistance, support or advice
25 from any agency or instrumentality of the government as well as
26 academic institutions, NGOs, and the private sector, as may be
27 necessary for the effective management, protection and administration
28 of the protected area;

- 1 i) Issue permits and clearances for activities that implement the
2 management plan and other permitted activities in accordance with
3 terms, conditions, and criteria established by the PAMB: *Provided*, That
4 all permits for extraction of natural resources, including collection of
5 wildlife, and its by-products or derivatives for research purposes, shall
6 continue to be issued by relevant authorities, subject to prior clearance
7 from the PAMB, through the PASu, in accordance with the specific acts
8 to be covered;
- 9 j) Collect and receive pertinent fees, charges, donations, and other
10 income for the protected area: *Provided*, That such fees, charges,
11 donations, and other income collected and received shall be reported
12 regularly to the PAMB and the DENR in accordance with existing
13 guidelines;
- 14 k) Prepare and recommend to the PAMB, approval of the annual work
15 and financial plans of the protected area based on the management
16 plan; and
- 17 l) Perform such other functions as the PAMB and the DENR may assign.

18 The PAMO may be augmented by the deputized local environment and
19 natural resources officers upon the recommendation of the PAMB and
20 approval of the DENR.

21 **ARTICLE III**
22 **PROCEEDS AND FEES**

23 *Sec. 10. The Mt. Pulag Protected Landscape Fund.* – There is hereby
24 established a trust fund to be known as the Mt. Pulag Protected Landscape Fund for
25 purposes of financing projects of the MPPL and the NIPAS. All income generated
26 from the operation and management of wild flora and fauna in the MPPL shall
27 accrue to the fund. The income shall be derived from fees from permitted sale and
28 export of flora and fauna and other resources from the MPPL, proceeds from lease
29 of multiple-use areas, contributions from industries and facilities directly benefiting

1 from the MPPL, and such other fees and income derived from the operation of the
2 MPPL.

3 The PAMB shall retain seventy-five percent (75%) of all revenues raised
4 through the above means, which shall be deposited in the Protected Area-Retained
5 Income Account (PA-RIA) in any authorized government depository bank within the
6 locality: *Provided*, That disbursements out of such deposits shall be used solely for
7 the protection, maintenance, administration, and management of the protected area
8 and implementation of duly approved projects of the PAMB. The remaining twenty-
9 five percent (25%) of revenues shall be deposited as a special account in the
10 general fund in the National Treasury for purposes of financing the programs and
11 projects of the NIPAS.

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

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

22 **ARTICLE IV**
23 **TRANSITORY AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

24 **Sec. 11. Appropriations.** – The Secretary of the DENR shall immediately
25 include in the Department's Program the implementation of this Act, the funding of
26 which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

27 **Sec. 12. Suppletory Application of the NIPAS Law.** – The provisions of
28 Republic Act No. 7586, as amended by Republic Act No. 11038, shall have
29 suppletory application to this Act.

1 Sec. 13. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within ninety (90) days from
2 the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DENR shall, in consultation with the
3 local governments of the Municipalities of Kabayan, Bokod and Buguias, in the
4 Province of Benguet, the Municipality of Tinoc, in the Province of Ifugao, and
5 Municipality of Kayapa, in the Province of Nueva Vizcaya, the provincial governments
6 of Benguet, Ifugao and Nueva Vizcaya, and concerned national government
7 agencies, issue the corresponding rules and regulations for the effective
8 implementation of this Act.

9 Sec. 14. *Separability Clause.* – If any section or provision of this Act is held
10 unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining sections or provisions with the provisions
11 not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

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

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

Approved,

1

2

3