

Sixteenth Congress of the )  
Republic of the Philippines )  
First Regular Session )



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

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SENATE

S.B. No. 943

RECEIVED BY: *ji*

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Introduced by Senator Ramon Bong Revilla, Jr.

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#### 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 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.

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**AN ACT  
PROVIDING FOR THE RETENTION BY THE PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT  
BOARD OF SEVENTY-FIVE PERCENT (75%) OF THE REVENUES ACCRUING TO  
THE INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS FUND (IPAF), AMENDING FOR THE  
PURPOSE SECTION 16 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7586, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS  
THE "NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM ACT OF 1992"**

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

**Section 1. Amendments to Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7586.** – Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7586, otherwise known as the "National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 1992" 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 (IPAF) for purposes of financing projects of the System. The [IPAS] IPAF 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 **SUBJECT TO THE RETENTION BY THE BOARD OF EACH PROTECTED AREA, OF SEVENTY-FIVE PERCENT (75%) OF ALL THE REVENUE RAISED THEREFROM.** [and may be utilized directly by the DENR for the above purpose.] 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 **IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXISTING ACCOUNTING, BUDGETTING AND AUDITING RULES AND REGULATIONS: PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT THE FUND SHALL NOT BE USED TO COVER PERSONAL SERVICES EXPENDITURES.**”

**Section 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.

**Section 3. Repealing Clause** – 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.

**Section 4. Effectivity Clause** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,