CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES SIXTEENTH CONGRESS First Regular Session

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biodiversity within and around it.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## H. No. 4418

BY REPRESENTATIVES RODRIGUEZ (I.), MATUGAS AND UNGAB, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 202

AN ACT DECLARING PAMITINAN CAVE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF RODRIGUEZ, PROVINCE OF RIZAL AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPE AND PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT

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

1 CHAPTER I 2 INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS 3 SECTION 1. Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Pamitinan 4 Protected Landscape (PPL) Act". 5 SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy, - The historical, cultural, 6 archaeological and ecological significance of the Pamitinan Cave warrants the 7 adoption by the State of a focused and continuing program to protect and 8 conserve it as part of the country's national wealth. 9 Pursuant thereto, the State shall ensure the full implementation of 10 this Act by mobilizing the appropriate resources to guarantee the effectivity of 11

the institutional mechanism herein established and by the provision of the

necessary scientific and technical support for the conservation of the

SEC. 3. Scope and Coverage. – The boundaries of the PPL within the Municipality of Rodriguez in the Province of Rizal are as follows:

Beginning at a point marked "1" which is S. 28° 15' 13" E. 1,167.58 meters from RZL 3138 of Rodriguez (Montalban), Rizal with geographic coordinates of 14° 43' 53.37" North and 121° 11' 05.01" East.

6	LINE	BEARING	DISTANCE
7	1-2	N. 03° 09' 52" W.	1,330.44 m.
8	2-3	N. 10° 08' 23" E.	460.77 m.
9	3-4	N. 01° 59' 40" W.	1,254.80 m.
10	4-5	S. 88° 58' 16" E.	1,274.47 m.
11	5-6	S. 85° 16' 06" E.	729.13 m.
12	6-7	S. 01° 05' 57" W.	3,183.86 m.
13	7-8	S. 87° 03' 18" W.	525.45 m.
14	8-9	N. 53° 45' 03" W.	418.40 m.
15	9-10	N. 89° 47' 11" W.	867.15 m.
16	10-1	N. 87° 49' 22" W.	174.64 m.

 The PPL shall cover a total land area of six hundred nine and 149/1000 (609.149) hectares.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) shall appropriately mark on the ground the technical descriptions provided in this Act with clearly visible markers and shall prepare appropriate maps thereof. Any modification of the coverage of this Act due to such factors as changing ecological situations, new scientific or archaeological findings, or discovery of traditional boundaries not previously taken into account shall be made through an act of Congress, after consultation with the affected public and concerned government agencies.

1	SEC. 4. Land Classification All lands comprising the PPL shall
2	fall under the classification of national park as provided for in the Philippine
3	Constitution.

- SEC. 5. Buffer Zones. Buffer zones surrounding the PPL shall be established pursuant to Republic Act No. 7586 or the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act of 1992 for the purpose of providing an extra layer of protection around the area, where restrictions can apply and communities can assist in repelling threats to the PPL. Such buffer zones shall be managed according to the management plan formulated pursuant to this Act.
  - SEC. 6. Definition of Terms. As used in this Act:
- (a) *Biodiversity* refers to variety and variability among living organisms and the ecological complexes in which said organism occur;
- (b) *Biological resources* refer to the genetic resources, organisms or parts thereof, population, or any other biotic component of ecosystem with actual or potential use or value for humanity;
- (c) *Bioprospecting* refers to the research, collection and utilization of biological and genetic resources for purposes of applying the knowledge derived therefrom solely for commercial purposes;
- (d) Buffer zones refer to identified areas outside the boundaries of and immediately adjacent to a designated, protected area that need special development and supervision in order to avoid or minimize harm to the protected area;
- (e) *By-products* or *derivatives* refer to parts taken or substances extracted from wildlife, in raw or in processed form. These include stuffed animals and herbarium specimens;
- (f) Collection or collecting refers to the act of gathering or harvesting wildlife, its by-products or derivatives;

(g) Conservation refers to sustainable utilization of wildlife and/or maintenance, restoration and enhancement of the habitat;

- (h) *Ecosystem* refers to the dynamic complex of plant, animal and microorganism communities and their nonliving environment interacting as a functional unit;
- (i) Endangered species refer to species or subspecies that are not critically endangered but whose survival in the wild are unlikely if the causal factors continue operating;
- (j) Endemic species refer to species or subspecies of flora and fauna which are naturally occurring and found only within specific areas in the country;
- (k) Exotic species refer to species or subspecies of flora and fauna which do not naturally occur within the protected area at present or in historical time;
- (i) Habitat refers to a place or type of environment where species or subspecies naturally occur or have naturally established their population;
- (m) Hunting refers to collection of wild fauna for food and/or recreational purposes with the use of weapons such as guns, bow and arrow, spear and the like;
- (n) *Mineral* refers to all naturally occurring inorganic substance in solid, gas, liquid, or any intermediate state including energy materials such as coal, petroleum, natural gas, radioactive materials, and geothermal energy;
- (o) National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) refers to the classification and administration of all designated protected areas to maintain essential ecological processes and life-support systems, to preserve genetic diversity, to ensure sustainable use of resources found therein, and to maintain their natural condition to the greatest extent possible;

(p) National park refers to the land of the public domain classified as such in the 1987 Constitution which includes all areas under the NIPAS pursuant to Republic Act No. 7586, primarily designated for the conservation of native plants and animals, their associated habitats and cultural diversity;

- (q) Nongovernmental organization (NGO) refers to an agency, institution, foundation or a group of persons whose purpose is to assist people's organizations/associations in various ways including, but not limited to, organizing, education, training, research and/or resource accessing;
- (r) People's organization (PO) refers to a group of organized migrant communities and/or interested indigenous peoples which may be an association, cooperative, federation, or other legal entity, established to undertake collective action to address community concerns and needs, and mutually share the benefits of the endeavor;
- (s) Protected area refers to identified portions of land and/or water set aside by reasons of their unique physical and biological significance, and which are managed to enhance biological diversity and protected against destructive human exploitation;
- (t) Protected landscape refers to an area of national significance, which is characterized by the harmonious interaction of man and land while providing opportunities for public enjoyment through recreation and tourism within the normal lifestyle and economic activity of the area;
- (u) Quarrying refers to the process of extracting, removing and disposing quarry resources found on or underneath the surface of private or public land;
- (v) Strict protection zone refers to a natural area with high biodiversity value which shall be closed to all human activity except for scientific studies and/or ceremonial or religious use by the indigenous cultural communities/indigenous peoples; may include habitats of threatened species,

or degraded areas that have been designated for restoration and subsequent protection, even if these areas are still in various stages of regeneration;

- (w) Tenured migrants refer to forest occupants who have actually and continuously occupied a portion of the protected area for at least five (5) years, and are solely dependent therein for subsistence, as of the passage of this Act. A protected area occupant is understood to be "solely dependent for subsistence" when everything indispensable for survival for the household, including food, clothing, shelter and health, comes only from the utilization of resources from the protected area; and
- (x) Wildlife refers to wild forms and varieties of flora and fauna, in all developmental stages, including those which are in captivity or are being bred or propagated.
- SEC. 7. Management of the PPL. There is hereby created a Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) which shall have jurisdiction, power and authority over the PPL for all matters that may affect biodiversity conservation, protection and sustainable development.

It shall be composed of:

- (a) The Regional Executive Director (RED) of DENR Region IV-A, as chairperson;
- (b) The Provincial Planning and Development Coordinator (PPDC) of the Province of Rizal:
- (c) The Municipal Mayor of Rodriguez in the Province of Rizal, or the duly designated representative;
- (d) The Barangay Chairperson of San Rafael, Municipality of Rodriguez, Province of Rizal, or the duly designated representative;
- (e) One (1) representative from each department or national government agency directly involved in the PPL or have long-term projects or permanent facility located therein; and

(f) At least three (3) representatives from accredited POs/NGOs operating in the PPL, which have been existing for five (5) years with a track record related to the protection and management of the PPL.

Each member of the PAMB shall serve for a term of five (5) years and shall be considered to represent one's sector and deemed to carry the vote of such sector in all matters. In the case of members who are government officials, their appointment shall be coterminous with their terms of office.

The members of the PAMB shall be appointed by the DENR Secretary in conformity with the provision of the NIPAS Act. The initial members of the PAMB shall be nominated from the current members of the interim PAMB of the PPL: *Provided*, That the PAMB shall include women as members.

The representatives from the local government units (LGUs) and national agencies in the PAMB shall include, as among their duties, the duty to inform their respective constituents, office or sector, of PAMB-approved or other relevant policies, rules, regulations, programs and projects, and to ensure that the provisions of this Act, the NIPAS Act and its implementing rules and regulations (IRR) are observed, complied with, and used as reference and framework in their respective plans, policies, programs and projects. Failure to comply with the foregoing shall subject such representative to disciplinary action as the PAMB may provide.

The members of the PAMB shall not receive any salary but shall be entitled to reimbursements for actual and necessary expenses incurred, either in their attendance in meetings of the PAMB or in connection with other official business authorized by a resolution of the PAMB, subject to existing rules and regulations.

1	SEC. 8. Powers and Functions of the PAMB The PAMB of the
2	PPL, which shall decide by consensus or majority vote of the members
3	present constituting a quorum of majority of all the members, shall have the
4	following powers and functions in addition to those provided under the
5	NIPAS Act of 1992 and its IRR:
6	(a) Issue rules and regulations to prohibit acts that may be
7	prejudicial to the PPL and to the declaration of policy set forth under the
8	NIPAS;
9	(b) Issue rules and regulations for the resolution of conflicts through
10	appropriate and effective means;
11	(c) Adopt rules and procedures in the conduct of business, including
12	the creation of committees to which its powers may be delegated;
13	(d) Approve the management plan and oversee the Office of the
14	Protected Area Superintendent (PASu);
15	(e) Establish criteria and set fees for the issuance of permits for
16	activities regulated by this Act or the management plan;
17	(f) Recommend the deputization of appropriate individuals for the
18	enforcement of the laws, rules and regulations governing the conduct or
19	management of the PPL;
20	(g) Approve fees and charges in accordance with existing guidelines
21	and raise funds for the PPL;
22	(h) Manage the allocation of the Pamitinan Protected Landscape
23	Fund, and other funds for the PPL, ensure their proper administration and
24	render accounting; and
25	(i) Recommend appropriate policy changes to the DENR and other
26	government authorities.
27	The DENR, through the RED, shall ensure that the PAMB acts

within the scope of its powers and functions. In case of conflict between

administrative orders of national application issued by the DENR pursuant to the NIPAS Act and the resolutions issued by the PAMB, the PAMB shall notify the DENR Secretary who shall decide whether to apply the rule or withdraw its application in the PPL.

SEC. 9. The Protected Area Superintendent (PASu) Office. — There is hereby established a PASu Office within the DENR Regional Office to be in charge of the management, protection and administration of the PPL. The PASu shall have full responsibility for the protection of land, water, wildlife and other natural physical and biological resources within the PPL. The PASu shall be supported by the existing personnel of the DENR. The PASu shall be the chief operating officer of the PPL and shall be directly accountable to the PAMB.

As such, the PASu shall have the following duties and responsibilities in addition to those provided under the NIPAS Act and its IRR:

- (a) Establish, operate and maintain a database management system as decision support tool;
  - (b) Prepare the management plans as herein defined;
- (c) Provide a secretariat for the PAMB and supply the PAMB with all the necessary information to make appropriate decisions for the implementation of this Act;
- (d) Enforce the laws, rules and regulations relevant to the PPL, institute and file legal action independently or in collaboration with other government agencies or organizations and assist in the prosecution of offenses committed in violation of this Act:
- (e) Monitor all activities within the PPL to ensure its conformity with the management plan;

1	(f) Recommend the issuance of permits based on terms, conditions
2	and criteria established by the PAMB;
3	(g) Ensure the integration of the PPL management policies,
4	regulations, programs and projects to all the concerned national and LGU
5	levels; and
6	(h) Perform such other functions as the PAMB may delegate.
7	The PASu shall be supported by sufficient number of personnel who
8	shall be performing day-to-day management, protection and administration of
9	the PPL. Upon the recommendation of the PAMB, the DENR Regional
10	Executive Director shall deputize local community leaders and environment
11	and natural resource officers.
12	SEC. 10. Management Plan Within one (1) year from the
13	effectivity of this Act, a management plan shall be put into effect to serve as
14	the basic long-term framework plan in the management of the PPL and as
15	guide in the preparation of its annual operations plan and budget.
16	The PPL Management Plan shall adhere to the general management
17	planning strategy provided for under the NIPAS Act and according to the
18	procedure herein set forth. It shall contain, among others, the following:
19	(a) The category of the protected area;
20	(b) Period of applicability of the plan;
21	(c) Key management issues;
22	(d) Goals and objectives of management in support of Section 2
23	hereof;
24	(e) Site management strategy;
25	(f) Major management activities such as, but not limited to,
26	enforcement of laws, habitat and wildlife management, sustainable use
27	management, infrastructure development and maintenance, and fire and pest
28	control;

(g) Zoning; and

(h) Visitor management programs.

The management plan shall be prepared by the PASu in coordination with the appropriate offices of the DENR, local communities and the NGOs. It shall be reviewed and approved by the PAMB and certified by the DENR Secretary. Such certification shall be mandatory to ensure that the plan conforms to all laws and the applicable rules and regulations issued by the DENR: *Provided, however*, That the DENR Secretary may revise and modify the protection and conservation plan, after consultation with the PAMB, prior to certification, to ensure conformity with applicable laws, rules and regulations.

A year before the expiration of the period of the applicability of the plan, the PASu shall cause the publication of notices for comments and suggestions on the subsequent management plan in a newspaper of general circulation in the Municipality of Rodriguez. Notices shall also be posted in the respective provincial and municipal halls of the concerned province and municipality as well as in the barangay halls bounding or immediately adjacent to the protected landscape. The proposed plan shall be made available to the public during the period for comment and the final plan shall likewise be made available for public perusal at the Office of the PASu, upon the approval of the PAMB: *Provided*, That the plans shall be plainly written in a language understandable in the area.

SEC. 11. *Pilgrimage*. — People who enter the PPL for cultural and religious purposes and other activities that have benign impact on the sustainability and biodiversity of the area shall be regulated by the PAMB. For such purpose, the PAMB shall designate parts of the PPL where cultural and religious activities are allowed under terms and conditions pursuant to Section 7 of this Act.

SEC. 12. Pamitinan Protected Landscape Fund. — There is hereby established a trust fund to be known as the Pamitinan Protected Landscape Fund (PPLF) for purposes of financing projects of the system. All income generated from the operation of the system or the management of its wild flora and fauna in the protected area shall accrue to the PPLF. These income shall be derived from visitors/tourists fees, fees from permitted sale and export of flora and fauna and other resources from the protected areas, proceeds from the registration and lease of multiple-use areas, including tourism concessions, contributions from industries and facilities directly benefiting from the protected area, and such other fees and income derived from the operation of the protected area.

The fund may be augmented by grants, donations, endowment from various sources, domestic or foreign, 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: *Provided*, That the PAMB shall retain seventy-five percent (75%) of all revenues raised, to be deposited in any government bank within the locality; and that disbursements shall be made solely for the protection, maintenance, administration and management of the area and implementation of duly approved projects endorsed by the PAMB in accordance with existing accounting, budgeting and auditing rules and regulations: *Provided*, *further*, That the fund shall not be used to cover personal services expenditures.

The remaining twenty-five percent (25%) of the revenues shall be deposited as a special account in the National Treasury as share to the Integrated Protected Area Fund (IPAF) created pursuant to Republic Act No. 7586.

The Municipality of Rodriguez shall continue to impose and collect all other fees not enumerated herein which they have traditionally collected,

such as business permits, property tax and rentals of the facilities of the municipality. Furthermore, the Municipality of Rodriguez may charge add-ons to fees imposed by the PAMB: *Provided*, That such add-ons shall be determined based on the contribution of the municipality in the maintenance and protection of the PPL.

SEC. 13. Tenured Migrants and Other PPL Stakeholders.

- Tenured migrants shall be eligible to become stewards of portions of lands within allowable zones. The PAMB shall identify, verify and review all tenurial instruments, land claims, and issuances of permits for resource use within the PPL and recommend the issuance of the appropriate tenure instrument consistent with the zoning provided in the management plan.

Should areas occupied by tenured migrants be designated as zones in which no occupation or other activities are allowed pursuant to sustainable development objectives, said tenured migrants shall be transferred or relocated to multiple-use zones or buffer zones: *Provided*, That such transfer or relocation shall be accomplished through just and humane means.

In the event of termination of a tenurial instrument for cause or by voluntary surrender of rights, the PASu shall take immediate steps to rehabilitate the area in order to return it to its natural state prior to the cultivation or other act by the tenured migrant.

Within three (3) months from the passage of this Act, the PASu shall submit the complete list of tenured migrants to the the PAMB for its approval.

SEC. 14. Existing Facilities Within the PPL. — Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the PAMB, with the assistance of the DENR, shall assess existing facilities of government organizations, NGOs, and private institutions that are found to be inside the protected area in terms of their significance to national interest and their impact on the protected area: Provided, That a contract for the continued use of facilities that are found to

be significant to national interest shall be negotiated, containing therein any profit-sharing agreement, including payment of fees and other measures that shall be beneficial to the management of the area: Provided, further, That conditions shall be imposed on facilities whose purposes are found to be inconsistent with protected area management; Provided, finally, That if such conditions are violated, the owner of the facility shall be liable to pay a fine of five thousand pesos (P5,000.00) for every violation. Upon reaching a total fine of five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00), the PAMB, through the PASu and deputizing other government entities, shall cause the cessation and demolition of the facility at the cost of its owner.

Existing facilities allowed to remain within the PPL may be charged a reasonable royalty by the PAMB. All income from such royalties shall accrue to the PPLF.

SEC. 15. Renewable and Nonrenewable Energy Resources. — Any exploration and exploitation or utilization of nonrenewable resources including mining within the PPL shall not be allowed. Renewable energy projects within the PPL shall be permitted only through an act of Congress except energy from wind, sun and water sources, and not more than three (3)-megawatt capacity for mini-hydro power: *Provided, however*, That these renewable energy projects are outside the strict protection zone, and shall adopt reduced impact technologies and undergo the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) system as provided by law: *Provided, further*, That the PAMB has endorsed the project.

SEC. 16. Special Prosecutor and Retained Counsel. – Within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Justice (DOJ) shall appoint a special prosecutor to whom all cases of violation of laws, rules and regulations in the PPL shall be assigned. Such special prosecutor shall coordinate with the PAMB and the PASu in the prosecution of cases and shall

- assist in the training of wardens and rangers in arrest and criminal procedures.
- 2 The PAMB may retain the services of counsel to prosecute and/or assist in the
- 3 prosecution of cases under the direct control and supervision of the special
- 4 prosecutor and to defend the members of the PAMB, the PASu and the staff,
- 5 or any person assisting in the protection, conservation and sustainable
- 6 development of the PPL against any legal action related to their powers,
- 7 functions and responsibilities as provided in this Act or as delegated or tasked
- 8 by the PAMB.

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- SEC. 17. Local Government Unit. The LGU concerned within the PPL shall participate in the management through representation in the PAMB as provided under Section 7 hereof. The LGU may appropriate a portion of its share from the annual internal revenue allotment and other income for use of the PPL: Provided, That all funds directly coming from the LGU shall be exempted from the twenty-five percent (25%) remittance requirement under Section 12 hereof.
- SEC. 18. Prohibited Act and Penalties. In addition to those provided in the NIPAS Act and its IRR, the following acts shall be prohibited:
- (a) The penalties and qualifications prescribed in Articles 309 and 310 of the Revised Penal Code, depending on the value of the resources involved in connection with the prohibited act or a fine of at least triple the value of the said resources, or both, shall be imposed upon any person who:
- (1) Takes, destroys, collects, disturbs or possesses any wild terrestrial or aquatic plants or animals, flora or fauna, sand, rocks or by-products derived therefrom, within particularly identified regulated or prohibited areas or zones in the PPL including private lands without the necessary permit, authorization or exemption: *Provided*, That hunting of animals shall be absolutely prohibited except for scientific research;

(2) Cuts, gathers, removes or collects timber or any forest products, within particularly identified regulated or prohibited areas or zones in the PPL including private lands without the necessary permit, authorization or exemption;

- (3) Possesses or transports, within or outside the PPL, any timber, forest products, wild terrestrial or aquatic plants, animals, or by-products derived therefrom which is ascertained to have been taken from within the PPL;
  - (4) Undertakes mineral exploration or extraction within the PPL;
- (5) Engages in quarrying of sand, gravel, guano, limestone or any material within the PPL;
- (6) Hunts, collects, removes or destroys any endangered or protected species, except when collection or removal is for scientific research and exempted from the prohibition by the PAMB;
- (7) Conducts bioprospecting within the PPL without prior PAMB approval in accordance with existing guidelines;
- (8) Engages in kaingin or, in any manner, causing forest fires inside the PPL; or
  - (9) Establishes or introduces any exotic species within the PPL, which are detrimental to endemic species and the ecosystem therein;
  - (b) A fine of not less than five thousand pesos (P5,000.00) but not more than five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00) or imprisonment from one (1) year but not more than six (6) years, or both, shall be imposed upon any person who:
  - (1) Violates any rule and regulation in the management plan or by the PAMB or agreements reached before the PAMB in the exercise of adjudicative functions;

(2) Erects any structure on land or on water for any purpose outside
those required under the management plan and which are duly allowed by the
PAMB: Provided, That large-scale private infrastructure and other projects
such as medium to high density residential subdivisions, medium to large
commercial and industrial establishments, heavily mechanized commercial
and nontraditional farming, and other activities that cause increased in-
migration and resource degradation are absolutely prohibited;

- (3) Possesses a chainsaw, hacksaw and other mechanized equipment within the PPL without a permit;
- (4) Throws, dumps or causes to be dumped into the PPL any nonbiodegradable material or waste whether liquid, solid or gas;
- (5) Uses, dumps, places or causes to be placed into the PPL toxic chemicals and nonbiodegradable products, including pesticides and other hazardous substances, soaps and shampoos, and washing detergents, unless these are expressly allowed in the management plan;
- (6) Prospects, hunts or otherwise locates hidden treasures within the PPL:
  - (7) Informally occupies or dwells in any land within the PPL without clearance from the PAMB;
- (8) Possesses or uses blasting caps or explosives anywhere within the PPL:
- (9) Destroys, excavates, vandalizes or, in any manner, damages any natural formation on land, religious, spiritual, historical sites, artifacts and other objects of natural or scenic value;
  - (10) Alters, removes or destroys boundary marks or signs; and
  - (11) Purchases or sells, mortgages or leases lands or other portions of the PPL which are covered by any tenure instrument.

Valuation of the damage for this Act shall take into account biodiversity and conservation considerations as well as aesthetic and scenic value. Valuation assessed by the DENR or the concerned government agency shall be presumed correct unless otherwise proven by preponderant evidence.

Any person who shall induce another or conspire to commit any of the illegal acts prohibited in this Act or cause their workers to commit them shall be liable in the same manner as the one actually performing the act.

All conveyances, vessels, equipment, paraphernalia, implements, gears, tools and similar devices shall be subject to immediate and administrative confiscation, independent of the judicial proceedings by the PASu Office upon apprehension, subject however to due process and substantial evidence requirements. However, when legal action is filed in the regular courts, the conveyances, vessels, equipment, paraphernalia, implements, gears, tools and similar devices, independent of the administrative proceedings, shall not be released until after judgment has been rendered. Proceeds of the sale of all objects administratively or judicially confiscated pursuant hereto shall accrue to the PPLF. The PAMB shall promulgate the procedures for the sale of these objects. However, in no case shall confiscated or rescued protected animal species be sold or, in any manner, disposed of but shall be immediately turned over to the PASu Office for release in its natural habitat, subject to existing regulations.

The penalties specified in this section shall be in addition to the penalties imposed under Republic Act No. 9071 (National Caves and Cave Resources Management and Protection Act), and other related laws.

Conviction for any offense committed by a public officer or officer of the law shall carry the accessory penalty of perpetual disqualification from public office.

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1	SEC. 19. Reporting Responsibility The PASu, through the	
2	PAMB, shall submit an annual accomplishment report to the DENR Secretary	
3	on the activities undertaken in the PPL.	
4	SEC. 20. Appropriations The Secretary of the DENR shall	
5	immediately include in the DENR's program the implementation of this Act,	
6	the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations	
7	Act.	
8	SEC. 21. Construction and Suppletory Application of Existing Laws.	

SEC. 21. Construction and Suppletory Application of Existing Laws. The provisions of this Act shall be construed liberally in favor of the protection and rehabilitation of the PPL and the conservation and restoration of its biological diversity, taking into account the needs and interests of qualified tenured migrants.

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The NIPAS Act shall have suppletory effect in the implementation of this Act.

SEC. 22. Transitory Provision. - In order to ensure the recovery and restoration of biological diversity and to develop sustainable livelihood opportunities for tenured migrants, the DENR shall henceforth cease to issue concessions, licenses, permits, clearances, compliance documents or any other instrument that allows exploitation and utilization of resources within the PPL until the management plan shall have been put into effect.

All existing land use and resource use permits within the PPL shall be reviewed and shall not be renewed upon their expiration unless consistent with the management plan and approved by the PAMB.

SEC. 23. Separability Clause. - If any part or section of this Act is declared by the courts as unconstitutional, such declaration shall not affect the other parts or sections hereof.

SEC. 24. Repealing Clause. — For purposes of this Act, the provisions of Republic Act No. 7586 or the NIPAS Act are hereby modified in accordance with the herein provisions. All other laws, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 25. Effectivity. — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general

circulation readily available in and around the protected area specified herein. It shall likewise be posted in a conspicuous place at the municipal hall of the Municipality of Rodriguez, Province of Rizal and in the barangay halls concerned where the protected area is located and in other places frequented by the public.

Approved,