

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

DEPARTMENT OF SECRETARY

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SENATE  
S.B. No. 1031

RECEIVED TO 1031

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Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

R.A. 8371, otherwise known as the Indigenous People Rights Act of 1997 (IPRA) was a landmark legislation intended to address the concerns of the cultural communities and indigenous peoples throughout the country.

While there are some constitutional and legal questions against certain provisions of said law, the IPRA remains in effect. Under Section 64 of IPRA, the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) is tasked to take appropriate legal action for the cancellation of officially documented titles over portions of ancestral domains which were illegally acquired.

The NCIP is given 2 years to perform such functions as provided under Section 64 and the prescribed period has already expired last 22 November 1999.

This bill seeks to remedy this technical flaw in the law. Hence, it is hereby proposed that the NCIP be granted additional ten (10) years to continue performing the same task provided under Sec. 64 of IPRA.

Hence, approval of this Bill is earnestly requested.

  
JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA  
Senator

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AN ACT  
GRANTING THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (NCIP) AN ADDITIONAL TEN (10) YEARS WITHIN WHICH TO TAKE APPROPRIATE LEGAL ACTION FOR THE CANCELLATION OF OFFICIALLY DOCUMENTED TITLES WHICH WERE ACQUIRED ILLEGALLY, AS PROVIDED UNDER SECTION 64 OF REPUBLIC ACT NUMBER 8371 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT TO RECOGNIZE, PROTECT AND PROMOTE THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS CULTURAL COMMUNITIES/INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, CREATING THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLE ESTABLISHING IMPLEMENTING MECHANISMS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

*Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representative of the Philippines in Congress assembled.*

**SECTION 1.** – The National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) is hereby granted an additional ten (10) years within which to take appropriate legal action of the cancellation of officially documented titles which were acquired illegally as provided under Section 64 of RA Number 8371.

**SEC. 2. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect upon approval.

Approved,