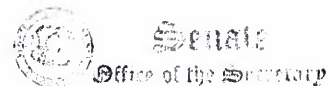


NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



'22 JUL 25 P1:32

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

S. No. 838

---

Introduced by Senator Loren B. Legarda

---

**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING RESOURCE CENTERS FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TO**  
**ENHANCE AND ENSURE DELIVERY OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES,**  
**APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 8371, otherwise known as the Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act (IPRA), was enacted into law in 1997 to give effect to the constitutional recognition and cognizance of the indigenous peoples in our country.

Despite concerted efforts, our indigenous peoples remain marginalized. Further, the reported grave human rights violations, displacement from the ancestral domain, and destruction of their natural environment and values call for an immediate measure to address the same.

In this regard, this bill seeks to establish resource centers that are ethnographically located, as may be determined by the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP). The centers shall serve as access centers to enhance the delivery of basic, social, technical, and cultural services.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping, sweeping strokes that form a stylized, elongated shape.

**LOREN LEGARDA**

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



'22 JUL 25 P 1:32

SENATE

S. No. 838

RECEIVED BY

---

Introduced by Senator Loren B. Legarda

---

**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING RESOURCE CENTERS FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TO**  
**ENHANCE AND ENSURE DELIVERY OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES,**  
**APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

1 Section 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Resource Centers  
2 for Indigenous Peoples Act."

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is hereby the policy of the State to provide  
4 Indigenous Peoples (IPs) equal access to basic services and ensure the protection of  
5 their rights, taking into consideration their customs, traditions, values, and beliefs.  
6 Towards this end, there is a need to set up Resource Centers in all ethnographic  
7 regions to enhance the delivery of the government's basic services, enable them to be  
8 recognized, and freely engage in participatory development programs, projects, and  
9 activities.

10 Sec. 3. *Establishment of Resource Centers for IPs.* - There shall be established IPs  
11 Resource Centers, hereinafter referred to as the "Center", in state universities and  
12 colleges, in strategic locations, as determined by the National Commission on  
13 Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), hereinafter referred to as the "Commission," taking into  
14 consideration their ethnological locations and in coordination with the Commission  
15 on Higher Education (CHED). The concerned state universities and colleges shall each  
16 designate in their center a coordinating officer.

17 Sec. 4. *Composition and Functions of the Center.* - The Center shall be composed

1 of the following three (3) major service areas and their respective functions, namely:

2 a) Statistical Service Area - documents and recognizes the IPs and their  
3 indigenous knowledge, systems and practices, political structures, and  
4 customary laws through census, appraisal and baseline reports, and  
5 libraries;

6 b) Human Development Index Service Area - addresses problems of  
7 ICCs/IPs and provides essential services through link-ups with  
8 concerned government agencies such as training programs, grants of  
9 scholarships, employment, livelihood, and health services; and

10 c) Domains Management Service Area - promotes participatory  
11 programs, projects, and activities for IPs to effectively deliver their  
12 responsibility to maintain ecological balance, restore denuded areas,  
13 and ensure the implementation of the Ancestral Domains Sustainable  
14 Development and Protections Plans and other similar programs.

15 *Sec. 5. Monitoring Progress and Implementation and Impact of this Act.* - The State  
16 Universities and Colleges where a Center is established shall submit an annual report  
17 of its accomplishments to Congress every three (3) years or as determined in the  
18 implementing rules and regulations.

19 *Sec. 6. Funding.* - The initial funding requirements for the implementation of  
20 this Act shall be charged against the current appropriations of the concerned state  
21 universities and colleges. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for its continued  
22 implementation shall be included in the annual budget of the concerned state  
23 universities and colleges under the General Appropriations Act.

24 *Sec. 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - Within ninety (90) days after the  
25 approval of this act, the Commission, together with the Commission on Higher  
26 Education, shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective  
27 implementation of this Act.

28 *Sec. 8. Repealing Clause.* - All laws, rules, and regulations or parts thereof  
29 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified  
30 accordingly.

31 *Sec. 9. Separability Clause.* - If any part, section, or provision of this Act shall be

1 held invalid or unconstitutional, no other part, section or provisions thereof shall be  
2 affected thereby.

3 Sec. 10. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its  
4 complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,