



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 7322

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BY REPRESENTATIVES NAVA, BARZAGA AND CO (E.), PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 346

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AN ACT

DECLARING A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NUEVA VALENCIA IN THE PROVINCE OF GUIMARAS, A PROTECTED AREA, WITH THE CATEGORY OF NATURAL PARK UNDER THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM, TO BE REFERRED TO AS THE TAKLONG AND TANDONG GROUP OF ISLANDS NATURAL PARK, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

ARTICLE I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

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3       **SECTION 1. Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “Taklong and Tandong  
4 Group of Islands Natural Park Act”.

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

12       In recognition of the richness of the biological resources, both flora and  
13 fauna, that are native and distinct to a parcel of land located in the Municipality

1 of Nueva Valencia in the Province of Guimaras, as well as their aesthetic and  
2 ecological importance, the said area is hereby declared a protected area with the  
3 category of natural park, and shall hereinafter be referred to as the Taklong and  
4 Tandong Group of Islands Natural Park (TTGINP). As such, the State shall ensure  
5 the conservation, protection, management, and rehabilitation of the area. It is  
6 likewise recognized that effective administration of this area is possible only  
7 through cooperation among national government, local government units (LGUs),  
8 concerned nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), private entities, and local  
9 communities. The use and enjoyment of this area must be consistent with the  
10 principles of biological diversity and sustainable development.

11 Towards this end, the State shall ensure the full implementation of this Act,  
12 the mobilization of resources for the institutional mechanisms herein established,  
13 and the provision of the appropriate scientific and technical support for the  
14 conservation of biodiversity and integrity of the ecosystems in the area, and the  
15 preservation of cultural and indigenous practices thereat.

16 **SEC. 3. Classification as a National Park.** – The TTGINP is comprised  
17 of a parcel of land of the public domain situated in the Municipality of Nueva  
18 Valencia in the Province of Guimaras, the metes and bounds of which are  
19 described in Section 4 of this Act. All lands of the public domain within the  
20 coverage and scope of the TTGINP shall fall under the classification of national  
21 park as provided for in Article XII, Section 3 of the Constitution.

22 **SEC. 4. Scope and Coverage.** – The boundaries of the TTGINP are more  
23 particularly described as the area beginning at a point marked “1” on the Map,  
24 which is S 34° 41’ W, 528.49 meters from PRS 92 “GMS 3114” with geographic  
25 coordinates of 10°26’16.53" Latitude and 122°30’45.26" Longitude, situated in  
26 Barangay San Roque, Municipality of Nueva Valencia, Province of Guimaras,

27	thence	S 45°22' E	87.84	meters to corner 2;
28	thence	N 86°28' E	86.93	meters to corner 3;
29	thence	S 54°43' W	32.81	meters to corner 4;
30	thence	S 29°53' E	78.64	meters to corner 5;
31	thence	S 41°20' W	34.08	meters to corner 6;
32	thence	S 15°33' W	202.60	meters to corner 7;

1	thence	S 86°34' W	224.88	meters to corner 8;
2	thence	S 41°22' W	47.65	meters to corner 9;
3	thence	S 21°22' W	63.21	meters to corner 10;
4	thence	S 03°52' W	136.26	meters to corner 11;
5	thence	S 09°46' W	277.82	meters to corner 12;
6	thence	N 76°31' E	139.33	meters to corner 13;
7	thence	N 84°05' E	34.159	meters to corner 14;
8	thence	S 87°04' E	43.31	meters to corner 15;
9	thence	S 72°31' E	73.45	meters to corner 16;
10	thence	S 30°42' W	83.10	meters to corner 17;
11	thence	S 00°47' E	97.65	meters to corner 18;
12	thence	S 33°38' E	93.91	meters to corner 19;
13	thence	S 63°15' E	23.35	meters to corner 20;
14	thence	S 63°04' W	160.57	meters to corner 21;
15	thence	S 14°39' W	133.86	meters to corner 22;
16	thence	S 54°21' E	102.41	meters to corner 23;
17	thence	N 43°18' E	170.27	meters to corner 24;
18	thence	S 78°00' E	159.82	meters to corner 25;
19	thence	N 17°50' E	243.42	meters to corner 26;
20	thence	S 73°17' E	118.80	meters to corner 27;
21	thence	S 34°28' W	25.34	meters to corner 28;
22	thence	S 61°20' E	85.85	meters to corner 29;
23	thence	N 68°51' E	55.93	meters to corner 30;
24	thence	S 15°47' W	51.03	meters to corner 31;
25	thence	S 40°37' E	105.14	meters to corner 32;
26	thence	S 03°55' W	71.28	meters to corner 33;
27	thence	S 56°23' W	36.08	meters to corner 34;
28	thence	S 38°18' W	58.56	meters to corner 35;
29	thence	S 08°30' E	95.06	meters to corner 36;
30	thence	S 02°44' W	245.92	meters to corner 37;
31	thence	S 89°21' W	182.35	meters to corner 38;
32	thence	S 43°50' W	280.92	meters to corner 39;

1	thence	S 11°35' W	103.97	meters to corner 40;
2	thence	S 15°30' W	100.98	meters to corner 41;
3	thence	S 38°44' E	79.50	meters to corner 42;
4	thence	S 68°22' E	58.84	meters to corner 43;
5	thence	S 71°50' E	148.32	meters to corner 44;
6	thence	N 60°35' E	82.56	meters to corner 45;
7	thence	S 28°27' E	92.30	meters to corner 46;
8	thence	S 33°21' W	221.81	meters to corner 47;
9	thence	S 03°43' E	152.39	meters to corner 48;
10	thence	S 11°57' E	119.44	meters to corner 49;
11	thence	N 49°48' E	125.75	meters to corner 50;
12	thence	N 71°32' E	217.63	meters to corner 51;
13	thence	S 46°05' E	253.16	meters to corner 52;
14	thence	S 00°00' E	826.00	meters to corner 53;
15	thence	S 90°00' W	3650.00	meters to corner 54;
16	thence	N 00°00' E	3636.00	meters to corner 55;
17	thence	S 89°51' E	2785.43	meters to corner 1,

18 and comprises one thousand one hundred forty-one (1,141) hectares, more or less.

19 **SEC. 5. *Establishment of buffer zones.*** – The Secretary of the  
20 Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), upon the  
21 recommendation of the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) created under  
22 Section 6 of this Act, may designate areas surrounding the TTGINP as buffer  
23 zones for the purpose of providing an extra layer of protection where restrictions  
24 may be applied: *Provided*, That in cases where the designated buffer zone would  
25 cover private lands, the owners thereof shall be required to design their  
26 development with due consideration to the protected area management plan.

27 **ARTICLE II**

28 **MANAGEMENT MECHANISMS**

29 **SEC. 6. *Protected Area Management Board (PAMB).*** – Within ninety  
30 (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, a Protected Area Management Board  
31 (PAMB) shall be created to oversee the management of the TTGINP. The PAMB  
32 shall be composed of the following:



- 1 a. DENR Regional Executive Director for Region VI, as Chairperson;
- 2 b. Governor of the Province of Guimaras, as Co-Chairperson;
- 3 c. Senators of the Republic of the Philippines who are duly registered
- 4 residents of the Province of Guimaras, or their duly designated
- 5 representatives, unless the Senators decline the membership in the
- 6 PAMB;
- 7 d. District Representatives of the Congressional Districts where the
- 8 TTGINP is located, or their duly designated representatives, unless the
- 9 District Representatives decline the membership in the PAMB;
- 10 e. Mayor of the Municipality of Nueva Valencia in the Province of
- 11 Guimaras, or a duly authorized representative;
- 12 f. Chairpersons of all the *barangays* with territorial jurisdiction over the
- 13 TTGINP;
- 14 g. Regional Directors of the following government agencies, namely:
- 15 Department of Agriculture (DA), National Economic and Development
- 16 Authority (NEDA), Department of Science and Technology (DOST),
- 17 Philippine National Police (PNP), Department of National Defense
- 18 (DND), and Department of Tourism (DOT);
- 19 h. Three (3) representatives from either NGOs or people's organizations
- 20 (POs), based in the Province of Guimaras, duly accredited both by the
- 21 DENR and the provincial government. The NGOs or POs represented
- 22 should have been in existence for at least five (5) years and with track
- 23 record in or related to protected area management;
- 24 i. At least one (1) but not more than three (3) representatives from all the
- 25 indigenous cultural communities (ICCs)/ indigenous peoples (IPs)
- 26 present in the area and recognized by the National Commission on
- 27 Indigenous Peoples (NCIP);
- 28 j. One (1) representative from an academic institution, preferably from a
- 29 university or college in the Province of Guimaras, with proven track
- 30 record in or related to protected area management; and
- 31 k. One (1) representative from the private sector, preferably a resident of
- 32 the Province of Guimaras, who is distinguished in a profession or field

1 of interest relevant to protected area management.

2 The terms of office of members of the PAMB, as well as the grounds for  
3 their removal shall be in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act No. 7586,  
4 otherwise known as the "National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 1992"  
5 as amended by Republic Act No. 11038, otherwise known as the "Expanded  
6 National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 2018".

7 **SEC. 7. *Functions of the PAMB.*** – The PAMB shall have the following  
8 powers and functions:

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

1 the terms and conditions of any undertaking, contract or agreement relative  
2 to any project or activity within the TTGINP;

3 k. Recommend from among a shortlist of qualified candidates, the designation  
4 or appointment of the PASu; and

5 l. Assess the effectiveness of the management of the TTGINP: *Provided*, That  
6 the members of the PAMB representing the LGUs and national agencies  
7 shall inform their respective constituents, offices or sectors, of PAMB-  
8 approved or other relevant policies, rules, regulations, programs, and  
9 projects and shall ensure that the provisions of this Act and the rules and  
10 regulations issued to implement it are complied with and used as reference  
11 and framework in their respective plans, policies, programs, and projects.  
12 Failure to comply with the foregoing shall be the basis for disciplinary  
13 action against such member according to administrative rules and  
14 regulations and such penalties as the PAMB may provide: *Provided, further*,  
15 That the DENR, through the Regional Executive Director, shall ensure that  
16 the PAMB acts within the scope of its powers and functions. In case of  
17 conflict between the resolutions issued by the PAMB and the existing  
18 administrative orders of national application, the latter shall prevail.

19 **SEC. 8. *The Protected Area Management Office (PAMO).*** – There is  
20 hereby established a Protected Area Management Office (PAMO) to be headed by  
21 a Protected Area Superintendent (PASu) who shall supervise the day to day  
22 management, protection, and administration of the TTGINP. The PASu shall hold  
23 a permanent plantilla position and shall be appointed by the DENR Secretary. A  
24 sufficient number of support staff with permanent plantilla positions shall  
25 likewise be appointed by the DENR Secretary to assist the PASu in the  
26 management of the TTGINP: *Provided*, That in the appointment of all PAMO staff,  
27 highly qualified residents of the Province of Guimaras, living proximate to the  
28 TTGINP, shall be given priority.

29 The PASu shall be primarily accountable to the PAMB and the DENR for  
30 the management and operations of the TTGINP. Pursuant thereto, the PASu shall  
31 have the following duties and responsibilities:

- 1 a. Prepare the management plan, in consultation with the stakeholders,  
2 including the annual work and financial plan and ensure its  
3 implementation;
- 4 b. Ensure the integration of the TTGINP management plans, programs,  
5 projects, and policies with relevant national and LGUs' plans and programs;
- 6 c. Provide secretariat services to the PAMB and its committees and ensure the  
7 availability of relevant and timely information for decision-making;
- 8 d. Formulate and recommend to the PAMB proposed policies, rules,  
9 regulations, and programs;
- 10 e. Establish, operate, and maintain a database management system which  
11 shall be an important basis for decision-making;
- 12 f. Enforce the laws, rules and regulations relevant to the TTGINP, commence  
13 and institute administrative and legal actions in collaboration with other  
14 government agencies or organizations, and assist in the prosecution of  
15 offenses committed in violation of the provisions of this Act;
- 16 g. Monitor, evaluate, and report the implementation of management activities  
17 of the TTGINP;
- 18 h. Request for and receive any technical assistance, support or advice from any  
19 agency or instrumentality of the government as well as academic  
20 institutions, NGOs, and the private sector, as may be necessary for the  
21 effective management, protection and administration of the TTGINP;
- 22 i. Issue permits and clearances for activities that implement the management  
23 plan and other permitted activities in accordance with terms, conditions,  
24 and criteria established by the PAMB: *Provided*, That all permits for  
25 extraction of natural resources, including collection of wildlife, and its by-  
26 products or derivatives for research purposes, shall continue to be issued by  
27 relevant authorities, subject to prior clearance from the PAMB, through the  
28 PASu, in accordance with the specific acts to be covered;
- 29 j. Collect and receive pertinent fees, charges, donations, and other income for  
30 the TTGINP: *Provided*, That such fees, charges, donations, and other income  
31 collected and received shall be reported regularly to the PAMB and the  
32 DENR in accordance with existing guidelines;



- 1 k. Prepare and recommend to the PAMB, approval of the annual work and  
2 financial plans of the TTGINP based on the management plan; and  
3 l. Perform such other functions as the PAMB and the DENR may assign.

4 The PAMO may be augmented by the deputized local environment and  
5 natural resources officers upon the recommendation of the PAMB and approval of  
6 the DENR.

7 **ARTICLE III**

8 **PROCEEDS AND FEES**

9 **SEC. 9. *The Taklong and Tandong Group of Islands Natural Park***  
10 ***Integrated Protected Area Fund.*** – There is hereby established a trust fund to  
11 be known as the Taklong and Tandong Group of Islands Natural Park Integrated  
12 Protected Area Fund (TTGINP-IPAF) for purposes of financing projects of the  
13 TTGINP and the NIPAS. All income generated from the operation and  
14 management of wild flora and fauna in the TTGINP shall accrue to the TTGINP-  
15 IPAF. The income shall be derived from fees from permitted sale and export of  
16 flora and fauna and other resources from the TTGINP, proceeds from lease of  
17 multiple-use areas, contributions from industries and facilities directly benefiting  
18 from the TTGINP, and such other fees and income derived from the operation of  
19 the TTGINP.

20 The PAMB shall retain seventy-five percent (75%) of all revenues raised  
21 through the above means, which shall be deposited in the Protected Area-Retained  
22 Income Account (PA-RIA) in any authorized government depository bank within  
23 the locality: *Provided*, That disbursements out of such deposits shall be used solely  
24 for the protection, maintenance, administration, and management of the TTGINP  
25 and implementation of duly approved projects of the PAMB. The remaining  
26 twenty-five percent (25%) of revenues shall be deposited as a special account in  
27 the general fund in the National Treasury for purposes of financing the programs  
28 and projects of the NIPAS.

29 The fund may be augmented by grants, donations, and endowment from  
30 various sources, domestic or foreign: *Provided*, That the fund shall be deposited in  
31 full as a special account in the National Treasury and disbursements therefrom  
32 shall be made solely for the protection, maintenance, administration and

1 management of the NIPAS and duly approved projects endorsed by the PAMB in  
2 accordance with existing accounting, budgeting and auditing rules and  
3 regulations: *Provided, further*, That the fund shall not be used to cover personal  
4 services expenditures.

5 The LGUs shall continue to impose and collect all other fees not enumerated  
6 herein which they have traditionally collected, such as business permits, property  
7 tax and rentals of the LGU's facilities.

#### 8 ARTICLE IV

#### 9 PENAL PROVISIONS

10 **SEC. 10. *Prohibited Acts and Penalties.*** – The prohibited acts and their  
11 corresponding penalties under Sections 20 and 21 of Republic Act No. 7586, as  
12 amended by Republic Act No. 11038, shall form part of this Act.

#### 13 ARTICLE V

#### 14 TRANSITORY AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

15 **SEC. 11. *Appropriations.*** – The Secretary of the DENR shall immediately  
16 include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding  
17 of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

18 **SEC. 12. *Suppletory Application of the NIPAS Law.*** – The provisions  
19 of Republic Act No. 7586 as amended by Republic Act No. 11038 shall have  
20 suppletory application to this Act.

21 **SEC. 13. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within ninety (90)  
22 days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DENR shall, in  
23 consultation with the local government of the Municipality Nueva Valencia, the  
24 provincial government of Guimaras, and concerned national government agencies,  
25 issue the corresponding rules and regulations for the effective implementation of  
26 this Act.

27 **SEC. 14. *Separability Clause.*** – If any section or provision of this Act is  
28 held unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining sections or provisions not affected  
29 thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

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

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

Approved,