



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
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## MEMORANDUM

TO : **THE DIRECTOR**  
Forest Management Bureau

**THE REGIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS**  
DENR- Region V and XI

FROM : **THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY**  
Field Operations- Mindanao and Legislative Affairs

SUBJECT : **INVITATION FROM THE COMMITTEE ON REFORESTATION**

DATE : 22 November 2021

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Please see attached letter dated 18 November 2021, from Representative **ELIAS C. BULUT, JR.**, Chairperson, Committee on Reforestation, inviting DENR to a virtual meeting via ZOOM on **02 December 2021 (Thursday) at 9:30AM with Meeting ID: 881 8147 7121; Passcode: 834629**, for the initial deliberation of various Community Forest bills.

Kindly inform this Office of your attendance and please submit presentation, comments and/or position paper in hard and soft copy at the Legislative Liaison Office, e-mail address [denrlegislative@yahoo.com](mailto:denrlegislative@yahoo.com) and telephone number 8920-1761, for consolidation.

For information and appropriate action.

  
**JOAN A. LAGUNDA, DM, DPA, MNSA**

MEMO NO. 2021 - 808

Encls: As stated.  
/juo092



Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REFORESTATION**  
3/F Ramon V. Mitra Building, Batasan Pambansa Complex,  
Constitution Hills, Diliman, Quezon City  
Tel. Nos.: 8931.68.88/8931.50.01 loc. 7140  
E-mail Add: [committee.reforestation@house.gov.ph](mailto:committee.reforestation@house.gov.ph)  
Mobile Nos. 0917.116.1335 Desiree/ 0949.788.3473 Mark / 0917.848.0590 Naomi

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18 November 2021

**GENERAL ROY A. CIMATU (RET)**

*Secretary*

Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
Visayas Ave., Diliman, Quezon City

Dear **Secretary Cimatú,**

The Special Committee on Reforestation of the House of Representatives cordially invites you to a meeting via Zoom Videoconferencing on **02 DECEMBER 2021 (Thursday) at 9:30 AM. (Meeting ID: 881 8147 7121; Passcode: 834629)**

The Committee will conduct an initial deliberation on the following Local Bills:

1. **House Bill No. 9666** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in Barangays Sta. Teresa and Tapul in Baao, Camarines Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Luis Raymund "LRAY" F. Villafuerte, Jr;**
2. **House Bill No. 9697** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in Barangays Pararao, Camanggahan, Cabanbanan, Tumatarayo in Balatan, Camarines Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Luis Raymund "LRAY" F. Villafuerte, Jr;**
3. **House Bill No. 9698** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in Barangays Sooc, Cotmon, Pagatpatan in Bato, Camarines Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Luis Raymund "LRAY" F. Villafuerte, Jr;**
4. **House Bill No. 9699** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in Barangays La Victoria and Panoypoyan in Bula, Camarines Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Luis Raymund "LRAY" F. Villafuerte, Jr;**
5. **House Bill No. 9700** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in the Calinigan Mountain Range in Camarines Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Luis Raymund "LRAY" F. Villafuerte, Jr;**
6. **House Bill No. 9701** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in Quinalasag Island, Garchitorena, Camarines Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Luis Raymund "LRAY" F. Villafuerte, Jr;**
7. **House Bill No. 9702** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in Barangays Cabotonan, Panagan in Lagonoy, Camarines Sur and Barangays Buenavista, Bagong Silang, Patrocinio in Presentacion, Camarines Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Luis Raymund "LRAY" F. Villafuerte, Jr;**

8. **House Bill No. 9703** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in Barangays San Rafael, Tible, Sooc and Colacling in Lupi, Camarines Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Luis Raymund "LRAY" F. Villafuerte, Jr;**
9. **House Bill No. 9704** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in Barangays Tagpocol, San Fernando and Antipolo/Del Socorro in Minalabac, Camarines Sur and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Luis Raymund "LRAY" F. Villafuerte, Jr;**
10. **House Bill No. 9705** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in Barangays San Ramon and Calawat in Pamplona, Camarines Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Luis Raymund "LRAY" F. Villafuerte, Jr;**
11. **House Bill No. 9706** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in Barangays Tan-ag, Duang-Niog in Libmanan, Camarines Sur and Barangays Bagong Silang and Salvacion in Pasacao, Camarines Sur and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Luis Raymund "LRAY" F. Villafuerte, Jr;**
12. **House Bill No. 10085** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in the City of Digos, Province of Davao del Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Mercedes "DIDI" C. Cagas;**
13. **House Bill No. 10086** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in the Municipality of Bansalan, Province of Davao del Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Mercedes "DIDI" C. Cagas;**
14. **House Bill No. 10087** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in the Municipality of Hagonoy, Province of Davao del Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Mercedes "DIDI" C. Cagas;**
15. **House Bill No. 10088** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in the Municipality of Kiblawan, Province of Davao del Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Mercedes "DIDI" C. Cagas;**
16. **House Bill No. 10089** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in the Municipality of Magsaysay, Province of Davao del Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Mercedes "DIDI" C. Cagas;**
17. **House Bill No. 10090** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in the Municipality of Padada, Province of Davao del Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Mercedes "DIDI" C. Cagas;**
18. **House Bill No. 10091** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in the Municipality of Matanao, Province of Davao del Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Mercedes "DIDI" C. Cagas;**
19. **House Bill No. 10092** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in the Municipality of Malalag, Province of Davao del Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Mercedes "DIDI" C. Cagas;**
20. **House Bill No. 10093** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in the Municipality of Sta. Cruz, Province of Davao del Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Mercedes "DIDI" C. Cagas; and**

21. **House Bill No. 10094** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in the Municipality of Sulop, Province of Davao del Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Mercedes "DIDI" C. Cagas.**

May we solicit your views and comments with regard to the aforementioned measures? We would appreciate the submission of your position paper on or before the scheduled meeting.

We look forward to your valuable inputs and participation in the said virtual meeting. Attached are the Agenda and e-copies of the proposed local measures.

Please be informed that we are currently on a work-from-home (WFH) arrangement. Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact/message us via our mobile numbers provided above.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

**REP. ELIAS C. BULUT, JR.**  
*Chairperson*  
Special Committee on Reforestation

FOR THE CHAIRMAN:

*Desirée A. Barrameda*  
**DESIREE A. BARRAMEDA**  
*Committee Secretary*



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Third Regular Session

**MEETING OF THE  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REFORESTATION**  
*via Zoom videoconferencing*

02 December 2021 (Thursday) @ 9:30 A.M.

### **A G E N D A**

- I. Call to Order/Roll Call
- II. Preliminary Remarks
- III. Acknowledgement of Members and Guests/Resource Persons
- IV. Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting
- VI. Initial Deliberation of the following local measures:
  - A) **House Bill No. 9666** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in Barangays Sta. Teresa and Tapul in Baa, Camarines Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Luis Raymund "LRAY" F. Villafuerte, Jr;**
  - B) **House Bill No. 9697** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in Barangays Pararao, Camanggahan, Cabanbanan, Tumatarayo in Balatan, Camarines Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Luis Raymund "LRAY" F. Villafuerte, Jr;**
  - C) **House Bill No. 9698** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in Barangays Sooc, Cotmon, Pagatpatan in Bato, Camarines Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Luis Raymund "LRAY" F. Villafuerte, Jr;**
  - D) **House Bill No. 9699** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in Barangays La Victoria and Panoypoyan in Bula, Camarines Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Luis Raymund "LRAY" F. Villafuerte, Jr;**
  - E) **House Bill No. 9700** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in the Calinigan Mountain Range in Camarines Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Luis Raymund "LRAY" F. Villafuerte, Jr;**
  - F) **House Bill No. 9701** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in Quinalasag Island, Garchitorena, Camarines Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Luis Raymund "LRAY" F. Villafuerte, Jr;**

- G) **House Bill No. 9702** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in Barangays Cabotonan, Panagan in Lagonoy, Camarines Sur and Barangays Buenavista, Bagong Silang, Patrocinio in Presentacion, Camarines Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Luis Raymund "LRAY" F. Villafuerte, Jr;**
- H) **House Bill No. 9703** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in Barangays San Rafael, Tible, Sooc and Colacling in Lupi, Camarines Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Luis Raymund "LRAY" F. Villafuerte, Jr;**
- I) **House Bill No. 9704** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in Barangays Tagpocol, San Fernando and Antipolo/Del Socorro in Minalabac, Camarines Sur and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Luis Raymund "LRAY" F. Villafuerte, Jr;**
- J) **House Bill No. 9705** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in Barangays San Ramon and Calawat in Pamplona, Camarines Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Luis Raymund "LRAY" F. Villafuerte, Jr;**
- K) **House Bill No. 9706** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in Barangays Tan-ag, Duang-Niog in Libmanan, Camarines Sur and Barangays Bagong Silang and Salvacion in Pasacao, Camarines Sur and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Luis Raymund "LRAY" F. Villafuerte, Jr;**
- L) **House Bill No. 10085** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in the City of Digos, Province of Davao del Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Mercedes "DIDI" C. Cagas;**
- M) **House Bill No. 10086** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in the Municipality of Bansalan, Province of Davao del Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Mercedes "DIDI" C. Cagas;**
- N) **House Bill No. 10087** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in the Municipality of Hagonoy, Province of Davao del Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Mercedes "DIDI" C. Cagas;**
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- P) **House Bill No. 10089** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in the Municipality of Magsaysay, Province of Davao del Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Mercedes "DIDI" C. Cagas;**
- Q) **House Bill No. 10090** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in the Municipality of Padada, Province of Davao del Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Mercedes "DIDI" C. Cagas;**
- R) **House Bill No. 10091** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in the Municipality of Matanao, Province of Davao del Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Mercedes "DIDI" C. Cagas;**
- S) **House Bill No. 10092** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in the Municipality of Malalag, Province of Davao del Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Mercedes "DIDI" C. Cagas;**

- T) **House Bill No. 10093** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in the Municipality of Sta. Cruz, Province of Davao del Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Mercedes "DIDI" C. Cagas**; and
- U) **House Bill No. 10094** entitled, 'An Act Establishing and Determining a Community Forest in the Municipality of Sulop, Province of Davao del Sur, and Appropriating Funds Therefor', **authored by Rep. Mercedes "DIDI" C. Cagas**.

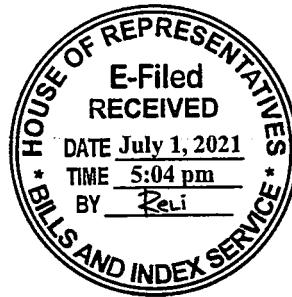
VII. Other Matters

VIII. Adjournment

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9697



Introduced by HON. LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.

**AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING AND DETERMINING A COMMUNITY FOREST IN  
BARANGAYS PARARAO, CAMANGGAHAN, CABANBANAN, TUMATARAYO IN  
BALATAN, CAMARINES SUR, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

This proposed measure seeks to establish a community forest in Barangays Pararao, Camanggahan, Cabanbanan, Tumatarayo in Balatan, Camarines Sur.

A community forest is a tract of forest land set aside by the Secretary of DENR for the use of the residents or municipality/barangay from which said residents may plant, re-plant, collect and remove forest products for their personal use in accordance with existing laws and regulations.

Community forestry projects are geared towards the involvement of local communities for better management, regulation and control. It promotes sustainability and empowerment of local communities who have better knowledge of the terrain and are in a better position to respond to emergencies such as poaching and encroachment.

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

  
LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9697

Introduced by HON. LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.

**AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING AND DETERMINING A COMMUNITY FOREST IN  
BARANGAYS PARARAO, CAMANGGAHAN, CABANBANAN, TUMATARAYO IN  
BALATAN, CAMARINES SUR, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established, under the supervision of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), a community forest in Barangays Pararao, Camanggahan, Cabanbanan, Tumatarayo in Balatan, Camarines Sur.

The DENR shall determine the size and specific forest limits of the established community forest within the barangay concerned.

SEC. 2. The DENR shall, within two (2) years after the establishment and determination of the community forest, transfer the management of the same to the local government unit concerned through a memorandum of agreement. It shall implement a training and phasing-in program for local government personnel on the management, utilization and conservation of the community forest.

The DENR shall, in coordination with the concerned LGU, undertake a forest resource inventory and determine the sustainable level of forest resource utilization and provide the LGU technical assistance in all facets of forest management planning to ensure sustainable development. The management plan should include provision for replanting by the communities and the LGUs of the community forests to ensure sustainability.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources shall include in the Department's program the establishment of the community forest in Barangays Pararao, Camanggahan, Cabanbanan, Tumatarayo in Balatan, Camarines Sur, the funding of which shall be include in the annual General Appropriations Act.

The local government unit concerned shall set aside funds from any available local revenue in an amount deemed appropriate for the management, utilization and



**SEC. 5.** The Secretary of the DOT shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and from internally generated funds of the DOT.

**SEC. 6.** Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOT, in consultation with the local government unit of Plaridel, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

**SEC. 7.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

conservation of the community forest.

SEC. 4. Within sixty (60) days from the passage of this Act, the Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources shall issue the rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of this Act.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 8102**

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Introduced by Representative Diego "Nonoy" C. Ty

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**AN ACT**  
**DECLARING THE BAWBAWON ISLAND IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PLARIDEL,**  
**PROVINCE OF MISAMIS OCCIDENTAL A TOURIST DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR**  
**ITS DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**SECTION 1.** The Bawbawon Island located in Barangay Panalsalan, Municipality of Plaridel, Province of Misamis Occidental is hereby declared a tourist destination. As such, its development shall be prioritized by the Department of Tourism (DOT), and shall be subject to the rules and regulations governing the development of tourist destinations.

**SEC. 2.** The technical description of the Bawbawon Island being declared as tourist destination are as follows:

From 8° 36' 00" N to 8° 36' 36.00" N Latitude  
From 123° 43' 48.00" E to 123° 45' 36.00" E Longitude

**SEC. 3.** Within one (1) year after the approval of this Act, the DOT, in coordination with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and other concerned agencies of the government, shall prepare a tourism development plan involving the construction, installation, and maintenance of such appropriate facilities and infrastructure that shall improve the overall feature of the area, thereby ensuring the accessibility and security of tourists.: *Provided, That said development plan shall ensure the preservation and conservation of historic significance of the area: Provided, further, That any activities and developments to be carried out in the area should conform with the concept of ecotourism as provided in the National Ecotourism Strategy jointly issued by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the DOT.*

**SEC. 4.** The DOT and its concerned attached agencies shall take immediate steps to implement the tourism development plan that will suit the needs of Bawbawon Island and shall incorporate the same in the National Tourism Development Plan.

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 9666**



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Introduced by **HON. LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.**

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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING AND DETERMINING A COMMUNITY FOREST IN BARANGAYS**  
**STA. TERESA AND TAPUL IN BAAO, CAMARINES SUR, AND APPROPRIATING**  
**FUNDS THEREFOR**

This proposed measure seeks to establish a community forest in Barangays Sta. Teresa and Tapul in Baa, Camarines Sur.

A community forest is a tract of forest land set aside by the Secretary of DENR for the use of the residents or municipality/barangay from which said residents may plant, re-plant, collect and remove forest products for their personal use in accordance with existing laws and regulations.

Community forestry projects are geared towards the involvement of local communities for better management, regulation and control. It promotes sustainability and empowerment of local communities who have better knowledge of the terrain and are in a better position to respond to emergencies such as poaching and encroachment.

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

  
**LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.**

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 9666**

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Introduced by **HON. LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.**

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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING AND DETERMINING A COMMUNITY FOREST IN BARANGAYS**  
**STA. TERESA AND TAPUL IN BAAO, CAMARINES SUR, AND APPROPRIATING**  
**FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established, under the supervision of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), a community forest in Barangays Sta. Teresa and Tapul in Baao, Camarines Sur.

The DENR shall determine the size and specific forest limits of the established community forest within the barangay concerned.

SEC. 2. The DENR shall, within two (2) years after the establishment and determination of the community forest, transfer the management of the same to the local government unit concerned through a memorandum of agreement. It shall implement a training and phasing-in program for local government personnel on the management, utilization and conservation of the community forest.

The DENR shall, in coordination with the concerned LGU, undertake a forest resource inventory and determine the sustainable level of forest resource utilization and provide the LGU technical assistance in all facets of forest management planning to ensure sustainable development. The management plan should include provision for replanting by the communities and the LGUs of the community forests to ensure sustainability.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources shall include in the Department's program the establishment of the community forest in Barangays Sta. Teresa and Tapul in Baao, Camarines Sur, the funding of which shall be include in the annual General Appropriations Act.

The local government unit concerned shall set aside funds from any available local revenue in an amount deemed appropriate for the management, utilization and

conservation of the community forest.

SEC. 4. Within sixty (60) days from the passage of this Act, the Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources shall issue the rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of this Act.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9700



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Introduced by HON. LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.

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**AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING AND DETERMINING A COMMUNITY FOREST IN  
THE CALINIGAN MOUNTAIN RANGE IN CAMARINES SUR, AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

This proposed measure seeks to establish a community forest in in the Calinigan Mountain Range in Camarines Sur.

A community forest is a tract of forest land set aside by the Secretary of DENR for the use of the residents or municipality/barangay from which said residents may plant, re-plant, collect and remove forest products for their personal use in accordance with existing laws and regulations.

Community forestry projects are geared towards the involvement of local communities for better management, regulation and control. It promotes sustainability and empowerment of local communities who have better knowledge of the terrain and are in a better position to respond to emergencies such as poaching and encroachment.

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

  
LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 9700**

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Introduced by **HON. LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.**

---

**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING AND DETERMINING A COMMUNITY FOREST IN**  
**THE CALINIGAN MOUNTAIN RANGE IN CAMARINES SUR, AND**  
**APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established, under the supervision of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), a community forest in the Calinigan Mountain Range in Camarines Sur.

The DENR shall determine the size and specific forest limits of the established community forest within the barangay concerned.

SEC. 2. The DENR shall, within two (2) years after the establishment and determination of the community forest, transfer the management of the same to the local government unit concerned through a memorandum of agreement. It shall implement a training and phasing-in program for local government personnel on the management, utilization and conservation of the community forest.

The DENR shall, in coordination with the concerned LGU, undertake a forest resource inventory and determine the sustainable level of forest resource utilization and provide the LGU technical assistance in all facets of forest management planning to ensure sustainable development. The management plan should include provision for replanting by the communities and the LGUs of the community forests to ensure sustainability.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources shall include in the Department's program the establishment of the community forest in the Calinigan Mountain Range in Camarines Sur, the funding of which shall be include in the annual General Appropriations Act.

The local government unit concerned shall set aside funds from any available local revenue in an amount deemed appropriate for the management, utilization and



conservation of the community forest.

SEC. 4. Within sixty (60) days from the passage of this Act, the Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources shall issue the rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of this Act.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Third Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 10093**



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Introduced by Representative Mercedes "Didi" C. Cagas

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AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING AND DETERMINING A COMMUNITY FOREST IN THE  
MUNICIPALITY OF STA. CRUZ, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL SUR, AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In a span of 20 years the Province of Davao Del Sur has lost 17.2 hectares of tree cover from 2001 to 2020 due to several man-made activities and natural phenomenon. This data was recorded by the Global Forest Watch, an international organization that provides data and tools for monitoring forests using cutting-edge technology and presents near real-time information via an online platform.

To mitigate the increasing deforestation and forest degradation and to help improve the Province's forest cover, this representation proposes the establishment of a community forest in the Municipality of Malalag, Province of Davao Del Sur. A community forest is tract of land set aside by the Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) for the use of the residents of a city, municipality, or barangay from which the residents may plant, replant, collect and remove forest products for their personal use in accordance with existing laws and regulations.

Generally, community forestry is beneficial to an LGU because it can generate income from the planting and re-planting of trees and plants and the harvesting of timber and non-timber forest products while at the same time promoting sustainability and regulating the ecosystem. It has been considered one of the most promising options of combining forest conservation with rural development and community empowerment and poverty reduction objectives.

It is for the foregoing reason that the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
MERCEDES "DIDI" C. CAGAS

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Third Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 10093**

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Introduced by Representative Mercedes “Didi” C. Cagas

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AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING AND DETERMINING A COMMUNITY FOREST IN THE  
MUNICIPALITY OF STA. CRUZ, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL SUR, AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

**SECTION 1.** There shall be established, under the supervision of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), a community forest in the Municipality of Sta. Cruz, Province of Davao Del Sur.

The DENR shall determine the size and specific forest limits of the established community forest within the Municipality.

**SEC. 2.** The DENR shall, within two (2) years after the establishment and determination of the community forest, transfer the management of the same to the local government unit concerned through a memorandum of agreement. It shall implement a training and phasing-in program for local government personnel on the management, utilization and conservation of the community forest.

The DENR shall, in coordination with the concerned LGU, undertake a forest resource inventory and determine the sustainable level of forest resource utilization and provide the LGU technical assistance in all facets of forest management planning to ensure sustainable development. The management plan should include provision for replanting by communities and the LGUs of the community forests to ensure sustainability.

**SEC. 3.** The Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources shall include in the Department’s program the establishment of the community forest in the Municipality of Sta. Cruz, Province

of Davao Del Sur, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

The local government unit concerned shall set aside funds from any available local revenue in an amount deemed appropriate for the management, utilization and conservation of the community forest.

**SEC. 4.** Within sixty (60) days from the passage of this Act, the Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources shall issue the rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of this Act.

**SEC. 5.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved,*