



SENATE
S.B. NO. 1565

'17 AUG 23 P 4 :48

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

RECEIVED BY: 

AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 443, 454, AND 463 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991"

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Tourism is an integral part of the Philippine economy. According to the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTIC) the Philippine travel and tourism industry contributed a total of P1.43 trillion to the local economy which is equivalent to 10.6 percent of the country's gross domestic product in 2015¹. These figures are still expected to rise and create a remarkable quantity of employment opportunities. Thus calls for the need to fortify the tourism safeguards provided by Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as the "Tourism Act of 2009."

Section 42 of Republic Act No. 9593 provides *Tourism Officers – Every province, city or municipality in which tourism is a significant industry shall have a permanent position for a tourism officer.* However, the local government units where tourism is a booming industry falls short of permanent positions for tourism officers. Furthermore, Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991" does not include the provision of permanent positions of tourism officers in its exclusive list of officers for every local government unit.

Without a specific amendatory clause in Tourism Act of 2009, local government units failed to establish permanent positions for tourism officers by local government units. This proposed measure intends to address the issue by amending the pertinent provisions of the Local Government Code of 1991 and ensure that permanent positions for tourism officers are provided in order to strengthen and promote the growth of the tourism industry in the country.

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

MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY
Senator

¹Philippine Daily Inquirer Online: <http://business.inquirer.net/208861/tourism-contributes-p1-4t-to-gdp>



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

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SECTION 1. Sections 443 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991" is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec.443. Officials of the Municipal Government.

- (a) There shall be in each municipality a municipal mayor, a municipal vice mayor, Sangguniang Bayan members, a secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan, a municipal treasurer, a municipal assessor, a municipal accountant, a municipal budget officer, a municipal planning and development coordinator, a municipal engineer/building official a municipal health officer, and a municipal civil registrar.

IN MUNICIPALITIES WHERE TOURISM IS A SIGNIFICANT INDUSTRY, A TOURISM OFFICER SHALL ALSO BE APPOINTED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE QUALIFICATIONS SET FORTH IN REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9593, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "TOURISM ACT OF 2009."

SEC. 2. Sections 454 of the Local Government Code of 1991 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec.454. Officials of the City Government.

- (a) There shall be in each city a mayor, vice mayor, Sangguniang Panlungsod members, a secretary to the Sangguniang Panlungsod, a city treasurer, a city assessor, a city accountant, a city budget officer, a

1 city planning and development coordinator, a city engineer, a city
2 health officer, a city civil registrar, a city administrator, a city legal
3 officer, a city veterinarian, a city social welfare and development
4 officer, and a city general services officer.
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6 **IN CITIES WHERE TOURISM IS A SIGNIFICANT INDUSTRY,**
7 **A TOURISM OFFICER SHALL ALSO BE APPOINTED, IN**
8 **ACCORDANCE WITH THE QUALIFICATIONS SET FORTH**
9 **IN REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9593, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE**
10 **"TOURISM ACT OF 2009."**
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12 **SEC. 3.** Sections 463 of the Local Government Code of 1991 is hereby
13 amended read as follows:
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15 *Sec. 463. Officials of the Provincial Government.*
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17 (a) There shall be in each province a governor, a vice governor, members
18 of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, a secretary to the Sangguniang
19 Panlalawigan, a provincial treasurer, a provincial assessor, a provincial
20 accountant, a provincial engineer, a provincial budget officer, a
21 provincial planning and development coordinator, a provincial legal
22 officer, a provincial administrator, a provincial health officer, a
23 provincial social welfare and development officer, a provincial general
24 services officer, a provincial agriculturist, and a provincial
25 veterinarian.
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27 **IN PROVINCES WHERE TOURISM IS A SIGNIFICANT**
28 **INDUSTRY, A TOURISM OFFICER SHALL ALSO BE**
29 **APPOINTED, IN ACCORDANCE TO THE QUALIFICATIONS**
30 **SET FORTH IN REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9593, OTHERWISE**
31 **KNOWN AS THE "TOURISM ACT OF 2009."**
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33 **SEC.4. Implementing Agency.** The Department of Interior and Local
34 Governance (DILG) in coordination with the Department of Tourism
35 (DOT) shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary to implement
36 the provisions of this Act
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38 **SEC.5. Repealing Clause.** All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders,
39 rules, and regulations, or portions thereof, inconsistent with this Act are
40 hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
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1 **SEC. 6. Separability Clause.** If any part of provision of this Act shall be
2 held unconstitutional or invalid, other provisions hereof which are not
3 affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

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5 **SEC.7. Effectivity.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
6 publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general
7 circulation.

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9 Approved,