

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

22 NOV -9 P1:19

SENATE
S. No. 1486

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING THE MANDATORY ESTABLISHMENT OF A
POPULATION OFFICE IN ALL PROVINCES, CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 488 (A) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO.
7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991",
AS AMENDED

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 488 of Republic 7160, otherwise known as the "*Local Government Code of 1991*", as amended, provides that, "the appointment of a population officer shall be optional in the local government unit: *Provided, however,* That provinces and cities which have existing population offices shall continue to maintain such offices for a period of five (5) years from the date of effectivity of this Code, after which said offices shall become optional."

According to the Commission on Population and Development (POPCOM) of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), the 2017 National Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) reflects that "Filipino women, on average, have one child more than they intended; and the figures are highest among women from the lowest wealth quintile and lowest educational attainment. However, the fertility rate or the actual number of children in the Philippines has gone down from three children in 2013 down to 2.7 in 2017."

The concerned government agencies namely NEDA, Department of Health (DOH) and POPCOM, who were tasked to harmonize their "contexts and create a sustained commitment towards a holistic national development, influencing health, education and economic outcomes" have continuously reassessed the family planning

programs and policies over the years. As a result of these efforts, the National Program on Population and Family Planning or NPPFP was formulated and approved by the President.

Last July 8, 2019, the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) issued Memorandum Circular No. 2019-100 regarding the designation of local population officers and mobilization of community officials, volunteers, and workers to intensify the implementation of the NPPFP.

This measure seeks to amend RA 7169 to mandate all provinces, cities and municipalities to establish a Population Office in their localities. By doing so, the tasks and visions for the provision of population development principles and the achievement of goals set in NPPFP and its vital function to nation-building will be realized.

The Population Office in every local government unit is vital in carrying out measures to guarantee the delivery of basic services and provisions of sufficient facilities pertinent to the integration of the population development principles and in providing access to said services and facilities.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is highly recommended.


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

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

1 Section 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "*Mandatory*
2 *Establishment of Provincial, City and Municipal Population Office of 2022*".

3 Sec. 2. There shall be a mandatory establishment of a Population Office in
4 every province, city and municipality with the necessary budgetary appropriations
5 covering the current operating expenditures and capital outlays.

6 Sec. 3. The Population Development Office shall be provided with a full staff
7 complement headed by a Population Development Officer. The Office shall perform
8 the following functions:

9 (1) Establish and maintain a comprehensive, integrated and updated
10 population development information system that contains household
11 demographic and socio-economic profile to be used in analyzing
12 population needs and projecting service requirements;

13 (2) Recruit, organize and mobilize Barangay Population Workers and other
14 community workers or volunteers for data generation, household
15 demographic and socio-economic profiling, and community health
16 promotion and advocacy;

- (3) Assist other local departments in generating and projecting population development data needed in their planning and program development functions and provide technical assistance in integrating population development needs and gender dimensions in their sectoral development programs and projects, particularly marginalized and indigenous people;
- (4) Design and undertake Population Development related services, studies and researches;
- (5) Establish mechanisms for monitoring in- and out- migration movement and human settlement patterns especially across ecosystems for planning and programming and formulate measures for the development of the migrants and development of effective urban management strategies;
- (6) Promote responsible parenthood and family planning (FP), particularly through the conduct of Information Education Communication Motivation (IECM), demand generation activities, and ensure provision or referral of appropriate FP services;
- (7) Oversee, coordinate and manage the implementation of Pre-Marriage Counselling (PMC) at the local level pursuant to the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the "*Responsible Parenthood and reproductive Health Act of 2012*;"
- (8) Formulate and implement measures to prevent unintended pregnancies among young people and promote adolescent health and youth development; and
- (9) Engage, collaborate and partner with relevant government agencies such as the Department of Health (DOH), Commission on Population and Development (POPCOM) and Civil Society Organizations and other private sector agencies for the purpose of ensuring that the appropriate family planning methods are available and that services are provided;
- (10) Generate and mobilize necessary resources for the implementation of a family planning program within the locality;

1 (11) Exercise other duties and functions, as may be prescribed by a local
2 ordinance and legal issuances.

3 Sec. 4. Section 488 of Republic Act 7160, otherwise known as the "*Local*
4 *Government Act of 1991*", as amended, particularly Title V (Appointive Local Officials
5 Common To All Municipalities, Cities and Provinces) is hereby amended further to be
6 read as follows:

7 "Article XVIII. The Population Officer

8 "Section 488. *Qualifications, Powers and Duties.* – (a) x x
9 x.

10 "The appointment of a population officer shall be [optional]
11 **MANDATORY** in the local government unit: *Provided,*
12 *however,* That provinces, [and] cities **AND**
13 **MUNICIPALITIES** which have existing population offices
14 shall continue to maintain such offices [~~for a period of five~~
15 ~~(5) years from the date of effectivity of this code, after~~
16 ~~which said offices shall become optional~~].

17 "X x x."

18 Sec. 5. *Separability Clause.* – If any part or section of this Act is declared invalid
19 or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected thereby shall remain
20 in full force and effect.

21 Sec. 6. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders,
22 ordinances, circulars, rules and regulations inconsistent with any provisions of this Act
23 shall be deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

24 Sec. 7. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
25 complete publication in the *Official Gazette* or two (2) newspapers of general
26 circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,