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



23 MAY 18 A11:06

SENATE

S. No. <u>2213</u>

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by **SENATOR CYNTHIA A. VILLAR**

AN ACT

CONVERTING THE EXTENSION OFFICE OF THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) LOCATED IN LAS PIÑAS CITY INTO A REGULAR LTO DISTRICT OFFICE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Las Piñas, a highly-urbanized city within the National Capital Region, serves as a strategic gateway to Manila - the capital of the Philippines, the rest of Metro Manila, and the Southern Luzon Region. It boasts a vibrant mix of commercial establishments, academic institutions, and homegrown businesses. Furthermore, it is home to the Las Piñas – Parañaque Wetland Park, a legislated protected area, and the world-renowned Bamboo Organ in St. Joseph Parish Church, a recognized National Cultural Treasure of the Philippines. With a rapidly growing population of over 600,000, Las Piñas stands as a testament to the harmonious coexistence of urban development, ecological preservation, and cultural heritage.

As the city continues to grow and develop, so too does the need for effective and efficient public services. Currently, the Land Transportation Office (LTO) in Las Piñas operates as an extension office, handling driver's license applications and motor vehicle registrations.

This bill seeks to convert the existing LTO extension office in Las Piñas into a regular District Office. This upgrade will significantly enhance the capacity of the LTO to provide vital services to the public, streamline operations, and manage the

rising demand due to the city's expansion. The conversion is aligned with the LTO's policy, aiming to improve public service delivery, and promote the ease of doing business.

By transforming the LTO extension office into a District Office, we expect an improvement in service delivery speed, a decrease in application and registration queues, and a safer and more efficient transport environment. The bill also represents our commitment to enhancing and customizing public services to meet the distinctive requirements of Las Piñas, a first-class local government unit.

In sum, the conversion of the LTO office in Las Piñas is not merely an administrative upgrade but a vital step towards ensuring the continued growth and development of the city, catering effectively to the needs of its constituents, and enhancing the overall quality of life in Las Piñas.

Hence, the approval of this bill is earnestly recommended.

CYNTHIA A. VILLAR

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

- Section 1. This Act shall be known as an "Act Converting the Las Piñas City
 Extension Office into a regular district office of the Land Transportation Office
 (LTO)".
- Sec. 2. The existing Las Piñas City LTO Extension Office is hereby converted into a regular LTO District Office.
 - Sec. 3. The Secretary of Transportation and Communications shall immediately include in the Department's programs the operationalization of the Regular LTO District Office in Las Piñas City, the initial funding of which shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the Las Piñas City LTO Extension Office. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued operation of the Regular LTO District Office shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.
- Sec. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,

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