

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HB NO. 382

Introduced by Rep. Roseller L. Barinaga

EXPLANATORY NOTE

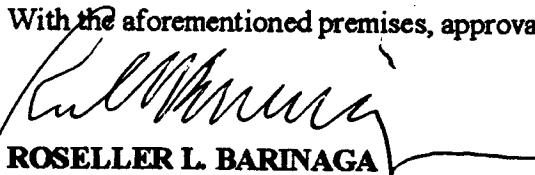
This proposed measure seeks mandate the establishment of POEA Regional Offices in all regions of the country. The enactment of this measure will certainly enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the POEA in responding to changing market and economic conditions and to the call of the national development plan for the strengthening of the worker protection and regulation components of the overseas employment program.

As stipulated in Executive Order No. 247 which reorganized the POEA, it is envisioned that the operations of the POEA will eventually be systematized, its functions rationalized, with its structure and organization becoming more efficient in undertaking its principal function of formulating and implementing systematic programs for promoting and monitoring the employment of OFWs and for protecting their rights to fair and equitable employment practices.

While there is a clamor to decentralize the operation of the POEA to make things easier for hundreds and thousands of OFWs who are coming from the provinces, mandating the establishment of regional offices for the POEA enable to the agency to bring public service to the local level. In this way, the POEA would be able to respond more effectively to the new demands of more meaningful welfare services to OFWs, better protection of their rights, more efficient adjudication of their cases and more efficient manpower delivery system.

The bill is consistent with the constitutional provision which promotes "full employment and equality of employment opportunities for all". (*Section 3, Article XIII of the Philippine Constitution of 1987*) The same also affirms Section 9, Article II of the same Charter which mandate the State to promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all."

With the aforementioned premises, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



ROSELLER L. BARINAGA

Representative

2nd District, Zamboanga del Norte

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HB NO. 382

Introduced by Rep. Roseller L. Barinaga

AN ACT
TO MANDATE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF POEA REGIONAL OFFICES,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 247, ENTITLED
"REORGANIZING THE PHILIPPINE OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT
ADMINISTRATION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

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

SECTION 1. Section 5 of the same Executive Order is further amended to read as follow:

"Sec. 5. *Regional [Extension Units] OFFICES.* - The [Administration] POEA is hereby [authorized] MANDATED to set up regional [extension units in such regions] OFFICES IN ALL REGION NATIONWIDE [as the Governing Board may determine to be necessary] to promote efficient and economic delivery of its services. The Regional [extension units] OFFICES shall be under the [Administrator's] ADMINISTRATION AND supervision of the [Labor] DOLE Regional DirectorS. It shall have, among others, the following functions:

"1. Executes the policies, plans and programs of the [Administration] POEA in [the] EACH REGION [regions outside of the Metro Manila area];"

"2. X X X;"

"3. X X X;"

"4. X X X;"

"5. X X X;"

"6. X X X."

SEC. 2. All laws, decrees, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 3. If any part or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen days from its publication in two national newspapers of general circulation after its approval by the President.

Approved.