

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Thirteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2190



Introduced by Honorable Antonio V. Cuenco

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to reorganize the Coast and Geodetic Survey Department (CGSD) of the National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA), an attached agency of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), and transferring it to the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) to be known as the Bureau of Coast and Geodetic Survey.

The CGSD used to be known as the Bureau of Coast and Geodetic Survey (BCGS) attached to the Department of National Defense. In the 1988 reorganization of government offices, the BCGS was merged, as a division of NAMRIA, a land mapping agency. The CGSD as it is now known assumed the hydrographic, oceanographic, and geodetic surveying andautical chartering functions of then BCGS.

The Philippines as an archipelago needs to have a highly competent and professional personnel and modern equipment in the hydrographic office of the government. The present CGSD sorely lags behind surveying services of other countries due to budgetary constraints and personnel problems. The CGSD is mandated to conduct geodetic, geophysical, topographic, hydrographic, and oceanographic surveys of all Philippine waters and entire archipelago. Under the present set-up, however, being merged with NAMRIA, has hampered its growth and development, as CGSD has to compete for scarce resources with other divisions under NAMRIA.

Thus, the situation needs remedial measure. The proposed bill seeks to professionalize the Bureau of Coast and Geodetic Survey and enable it to attune to the real nature of its service as the principal hydrographic surveying arm of the Philippine Government. It is also proposed that the reorganized Bureau of Coast and Geodetic Survey be made as an attached agency of the DOTC where maritime functions are best managed and coordinated with other maritime agencies.

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


ANTONIO V. CUENCO

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AN ACT

REORGANIZING THE COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY DEPARTMENT OF THE NATIONAL MAPPING AND RESOURCE INFORMATION AUTHORITY, AN ATTACHED AGENCY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES, AND TRANSFERRING IT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TO BE KNOWN AS THE BUREAU OF COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY, DEFINING ITS ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE, POWERS, AND FUNCTIONS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

SECTION 1. **Title.** - This Act shall be known as the "Bureau of Coast and Geodetic Survey Reorganization Law of 2004."

SECTION. 2. **Reorganization** - The Coast and Geodetic Survey Department (CGSD) of the National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA), an attached agency of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), is hereby reorganized as the Bureau of Coast and Geodetic Survey, hereinafter referred to as the Bureau, and transferred to the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC).

SECTION 3. **General Powers and Functions.** - The Bureau shall have the following powers and functions:

- (a) Undertake basic map-making;



- (b) Exercise supervision over the use of aerial photographs or maps, such as photomosaic, planimetric, and topographic maps;
- (c) Undertake hydrographic and topographic surveys of all Philippine waters and the entire archipelago;
- (d) Establish marks for meridian lines and the determination of magnetic variations;
- (e) Establish control points for coastal and inland surveys;
- (f) Publish topographic maps, nautical and aeronautical charts, coast pilot and notice to mariners associated with navigation in Philippine territorial waters;
- (g) Conduct tidal and current observations for the protection of the tidal movements;
- (h) Compile informative data pertaining to surveys of the country;
- (i) Coordinate the activities of the surveying and mapping agencies in the agencies in the government and semi-government corporations;
- (j) Develop and encourage free private enterprise in the field of surveying and mapping;
- (k) Promote and encourage research and development for the improvement of production methods;
- (l) Promulgate and adopt a set of mapping and surveying standards;
- (m) Obtain the necessary data for the compilation, reproduction, and publication of any map and chart; and
- (n) Perform such other functions as may be provided by law.

SECTION 4. ***Organizational and Command Structure.*** - The Bureau shall be headed by a Director with the rank of Commodore. The Assistant Director shall have the rank of Captain. Both shall be appointed by the President, with the consent of the Commission on Appointments of the Congress of the Philippines, from the list



of the commissioned officers of the Bureau not below the rank of Commander and Lieutenant Commander, respectively.

The organizational structure shall consist of uniformed and non-uniformed personnel. The Director shall prepare the Bureau Table of Organization, specialties, ranks and/or positions, and ratings, within six (6) months from the approval of this Act.

All appointments and promotion of commissioned officers shall be made by the President of the Philippines upon the recommendations of the Secretary of the DOTC. Appointment and promotion of non-commissioned personnel and the uniformed personnel shall be made by the Secretary of the DOTC upon the recommendation of the Director.

SECTION 5. **Civil Service Law.** - The hiring, promotion, and discipline of the non-uniformed Bureau personnel shall be governed by the provisions of Civil Service laws, rules, and regulations.

SECTION 6. **Transfer of Assets and Existing Facilities.** - The current appropriations of CGSD and assets presently under its possession, supervision, and/or control shall be deemed properties of the reorganized Bureau such as survey vessels, hydrographic survey equipment, armaments, vehicles and all their accessories, buildings, real estates, and records.

SECTION 7. **Transfer of Liabilities and Debts.** - Upon the transfer to and acceptance by the Bureau of the existing facilities, tangible and intangible assets, all debts, liabilities, and obligations of the CGSD shall likewise be assumed by the Bureau.

SECTION 8. **Transitory Provisions.** - In order to provide continuity in the judicious conduct of hydrographic, oceanographic, and geodetic surveys, the commissioned and enlisted services of the CGSD shall be transferred to the Bureau. The officers corps shall continue to be governed by extant laws, rules, and



regulations on commissioned officers, embodied by Republic Act Nos. 2057, 5534, and 5976, which shall continue to have operative effect until amended, modified, or repealed. The enlisted personnel shall continue to be governed under the exempt service.

The incumbent director of the CGSD shall continue in office and shall perform powers and functions of the Bureau until such time as a director is appointed and has assumed office for the smooth transfer of responsibility from CGSD to the Bureau, as well as the determination of the personnel to be retained which shall be based on merit and fitness: *Provided*, That all officials and employees whose services are terminated as a result of the organization of the Bureau shall be entitled to gratuity at the rate equivalent to one-half month's salary for every year of continued and satisfactory service rendered or the equivalent nearest thereof favorable to them on the basis of the highest salary received: *Provided further*, That officials and employees who are qualified to retire may have the option to retire under existing laws.

Any official who received gratuity under this section and who may later be reinstated in the Bureau or who is reemployed in any government office or instrumentality, shall refund the unearned portion of gratuity received from the Bureau prior to his reinstatement or reemployment.

SECTION 9. ***Appropriation.*** - Such sum as may be needed to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations of the DOTC under the current general Appropriations Act. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the operation and maintenance of the Bureau shall be included in the annual general Appropriations Act.

SECTION 10. ***Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** - The Secretary of Transportation and Communications, in coordination with the Secretary of National



Defense and the flag officer-in-command of the Philippine Navy shall issue rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

SECTION 11. **Repealing Clause.** - All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules, and regulations or parts thereof contrary or inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 12. **Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two (2) national newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive 'S' followed by a horizontal line.