



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

Seventeenth Congress
Second Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 6738

Introduced by Honorable LORNA P. BAUTISTA-BANDIGAN

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish , under the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, a Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO) in the Municipality of Malita, Province of Davao Occidental.

At present, DENR Region XI has only four (4) PENROs in its provinces and fourteen (14) Community Environment and Natural Resources Offices (CENROs) in the different municipalities of the region. The PENROs are located in Davao Oriental, Davao del Norte, Compostela Valley and Davao del Sur.

Under Republic Act 10360, the new Province of Davao Occidental was created from the Province of Davao del Sur consisting of the municipalities of Sta. Maria, Malita, Don Marcelino, Jose Abad Santos, and Sarangani. Davao Occidental commenced its corporate existence upon the election and qualification of its first set of elective officials on May 19, 2016 national and local elections. For almost two years, the residents of Davao Occidental continue to depend on the services of PENRO of Davao del Sur.

In view of the foregoing, and to further strengthen the independence and sustain the operational efficiency of a newly created

province, it is but fitting and timely that a PENRO be established in the Municipality of Malita, Province of Davao Occidental.

Hence, the immediate approval of this bill is earnestly encouraged.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of fluid, connected strokes that form a stylized representation of the name Lorna P. Bautista-Bandigan.

LORNA P. BAUTISTA-BANDIGAN



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1 **AN ACT**
2 **ESTABLISHING A PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENT AND**
3 **NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE (PENRO) IN THE**
4 **MUNICIPALITY OF MALITA, PROVINCE OF DAVAO**
5 **OCCIDENTAL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

6
7 *Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the*
8 *Philippines in Congress assembled:*
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10 **SECTION 1. *Establishment of PENRO in Malita, Davao***

11 ***Occidental.*** - There shall be established, under the Department of
12 Environment and Natural Resources, a Provincial Environment and
13 Natural Resources Office in the Municipality of Malita, Province of
14 Davao Occidental, to be known as the Provincial Environment and
15 Natural Resources Office of Davao Occidental which shall exercise
16 jurisdiction over all municipalities of the province,.

17 **SEC. 2. *Transfer of Records and Assets.*** - The Secretary of the
18 Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall transfer the
19 records, property, equipment, supplies and materials pertaining to the

1 jurisdiction and administration of the said Provincial Environment and
2 Natural Resources Office in accordance with existing laws and
3 regulations.

4 **SEC. 3. *Appropriations.*** - The Secretary of Environment and
5 Natural Resources shall include in the department's program the
6 operationalization of the Provincial Environment and Natural Resources
7 Office of Davao Occidental, the initial funding of which shall be
8 charged against the current year's appropriations of the Department of
9 Natural Resources, and thereafter, the succeeding funding shall be
10 included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

11 **SEC. 4. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
12 following its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

13 Approved,