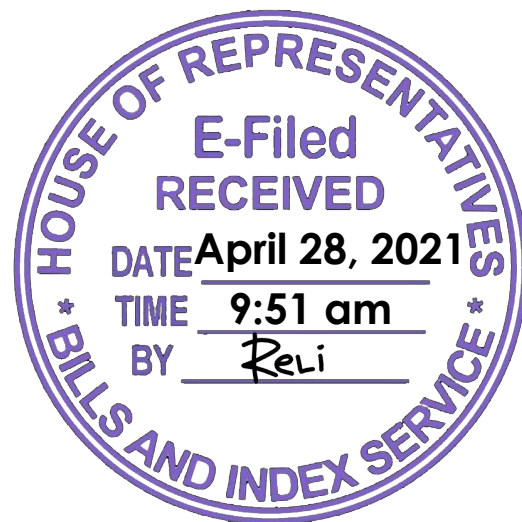


Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Eighteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **9267**



Introduced by Representatives Ria Cristina G. Fariñas
and Rudys Caesar G. Fariñas I

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish an extension office of the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) in the City of Laoag, Province of Ilocos Norte.

MARINA is the leading agency for maritime administration for safer people, safer ships, and cleaner environment. It likewise envisions the Philippines to have a globally competitive maritime industry.

Under its mandate, MARINA is authorized to register, supervise, and regulate all kinds of vessels, provide technological training assistance to all Filipino fisherfolk, and process certificates and professional identification cards or seaman's book for Filipino seafarers, among others.

According to the MARINA Central Office, the Province of Ilocos Norte has an estimate of 4,167 seafarers residing in the province. In the First Legislative District of Ilocos Norte alone, there are 2,567 seafarers.

MUNICIPALITY	NO. OF SEAFARERS
Adams	480
Bacarra	246
Bangui	58
Burgos	50
Carasi	5
Dumalneg	40
Laoag	745
Pagudpud	95
Pasuquin	193
Sarrat	254

Vintar	401
TOTAL	2,567

Ilocano seafarers still have to travel 8-12 hours to Manila for the processing of their requirements needed for training and other applications, and the distance and expenses alone put a heavy burden on them.

The nearest regional office of MARINA is located in San Fernando City, La Union, which is approximately five (5) hours of travel from Laoag City. Although it is much easier for residents of Ilocos Norte to go to La Union instead of Manila, only a limited number of applicants are accommodated at the field office and are therefore forced to travel all the way to the MARINA Central office in Manila.

Establishing a MARINA extension office in Laoag City will likewise assist the fisherfolk of Ilocos Norte with their requests for financial and technological assistance. The fishing industry in Ilocos Norte continues to flourish. According to the Philippine Statistics Authority - Ilocos Region's fisheries production grew in 2019 by 9.34%. In region 1 alone, Ilocos Norte shared 3.54% to the total fisheries production.

Thus, the establishment of an extension office will not only lessen the burden of the seafarers of Ilocos Norte but provide an opportunity for the province to have an equal chance to develop its fishing industry.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



RIA CHRISTINA G. FARIÑAS



RUDYS CAESAR G. FARIÑAS

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Eighteenth Congress
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HOUSE BILL NO. **9267**

Introduced by Representative Ria Cristina G. Fariñas
and Rudys Caesar G. Fariñas I

1 **AN ACT**
2 **ESTABLISHING AN EXTENSION OFFICE OF THE MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY**
3 **(MARINA) IN THE CITY OF LAOAG, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE, AND**
4 **APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**
5

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

8 SECTION 1. There shall be established an extension office of the Maritime
9 Industry Authority (MARINA) in the City of Laoag, Province of Ilocos Norte. The
10 extension office shall provide services for the residents of the Province of Ilocos
11 Norte and other nearby provinces.

12 SEC. 2. The Administrator of MARINA shall immediately include in the
13 Authority's program the operationalization of the MARINA extension office in
14 the City of Laoag, Province of Ilocos Norte, the initial funding of which shall be
15 charged against the current year's appropriations of MARINA Region 1
16 located in the Province of La Union. Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary
17 for the regular and continued operation of the MARINA extension office shall
18 be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

1 SEC. 3. The Secretary of Transportation, thru the Administrator of
2 MARINA, is hereby authorized to reorganize the offices, personnel, funds, and
3 properties of the MARINA Region 1 for the effective and efficient delivery of
4 services for the residents of Ilocos Norte. The Secretary of Transportation and
5 MARINA shall submit the consolidated reorganization plan and any
6 amendments thereof to the President of the Philippines for his approval.

7 The authority granted under this Section may be exercised until
8 December 31, 2022.

9 SEC 4. Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the
10 Secretary of Transportation shall, in coordination with the Administrator of
11 MARINA, issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective
12 implementation of this Act.

13 SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in
14 the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

15 *Approved,*