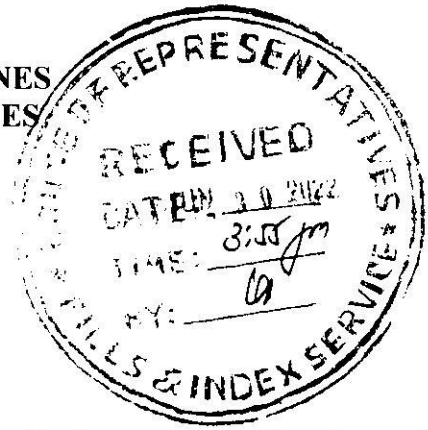


REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

House Bill No. 294



Introduced by: **Rep. GREG G. GASATAYA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) is tasked to implement and enforce policies on the licensing of various occupations and professions under its jurisdiction. Truth to tell, this duty can only be fully implemented with the most efficient and effective way possible.

The population of Negros Island Region (NIR) as of August 1, 2015 is 4,414,131, based on the 2015 Census of Population (POPCEN 2015). It is higher by 219,606 compared with the population of 4.19 million in 2010. Of the two provinces comprising the region, Negros Occidental, including Bacolod City, has the bigger population with 3.1 million as compared to Negros Oriental which posted a population of 1.35 million. Hence, the greater number of graduates and licensing applicants, who are expected to apply for or to update their professional licenses, come from this point of the region.

Considering the vital function of the Professional Regulation Commission and the welfare of all professional licensing applicants and holders, it is more than imperative to establish an office of the Commission in Bacolod City. This will expedite the processing of licensing applications for the people and also lessen the burden of expense and extra work for the applicants and the employees of the PRC regional office, respectively.

It has been a loud clamor from our people for the permanent presence of the PRC in such a strategic location like Bacolod City.

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

REP. GREG G. GASATAYA
Lone District, Bacolod City

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**AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION (PRC) OFFICE
IN THE CITY OF BACOLOD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established a Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) office in Bacolod City.

SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SECTION 3. The Secretary of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) shall immediately include in the Department's programs the operationalization of the PRC office in Bacolod City; the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

APPROVED,