

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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 324



Introduced by Hon. **ALAN 1 B. ECLEO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish a Department of Agrarian Reform Provincial Office in the Municipality of San Jose, Province of Dinagat Islands.

The land acquisition and distribution through the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program of the Philippines is noteworthy. However, the accomplishments especially in the distribution of the acquired land titles take time, even decade. These delays and backlogs are apparent when the original phasing of the program should have been accomplished, 10-year from its inception, but again and yet again, the deadline for the completion of the programs has been repeatedly extended.

The Department of Agrarian Reform is one of the major agencies tasked to conduct research, ocular inspection and barangay mapping for the implementation of CARP. This barangay mapping, inspection and a comprehensive database can be maintained if DAR personnel can readily access the constituents, so as the constituents to the Department. However, ever since the Dinagat Islands became a province in 2006, it continued to depend on the services provided by the DAR Regional Office in Butuan City which posed inconvenience and further delays in providing the basic services to the beneficiaries.

As of 2019, the province of Dinagat Islands has 9,047 hectares of agricultural land covered under the Comprehensive Agrarian program. It is fitting that a Provincial Office of the Department of Agrarian Reform be established within the island province of Dinagat to strengthen its operational efficiency.

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

ALAN 1 B. ECLEO
Representative, Lone District of Dinagat Islands

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM
PROVINCIAL OFFICE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN JOSE, PROVINCE OF
DINAGAT ISLANDS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established a Department of Agrarian Reform provincial office in the Municipality of San Jose, Province of Dinagat Islands to be known as the DAR Provincial Office of Dinagat Islands, which shall exercise jurisdiction over all municipalities of the province.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of Department of Agrarian Reform shall immediately include in the agency's programs the operationalization of the DAR Dinagat Islands Provincial Office, the initial funding of which shall be charged against the current year's appropriation of the DAR. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the continued operation of said DAR provincial office shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* Within six (6) months following the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Agrarian Reform shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

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

Approved,