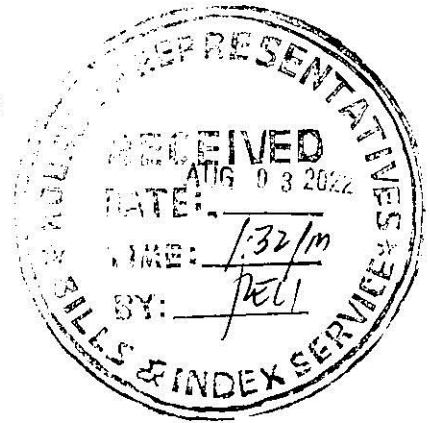


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 3088



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

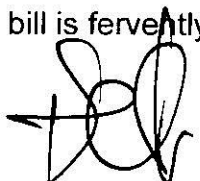
EXPLANATORY NOTE

Pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 552, it is the policy of the State to ensure a comprehensive development, utilization, and conservation of the Philippines' water resources. This in turn will promote food self-sufficiency, equitable access to opportunities and sustained productivity as key strategies to raise the quality of life in rural areas and attain overall national development. In realizing this policy, the National Irrigation Administration (NIA), a government-owned and controlled corporation primarily responsible for irrigation development and management, was created.

It is the NIA's vision that by 2022, the agency will be contributing to the inclusive growth of the country and the improvement of the farmers' quality of life. However, presently, there are still 1,500,000 hectares of remaining irrigable land yet to be irrigated. Particularly, in the Province of Dinagat Islands, towns and agricultural lands are experiencing a water crisis due to undeveloped and untapped water sources. As a socially and geographically challenged province, seeking irrigation assistance outside the area is difficult, if not impossible, considering the plight brought about by the current pandemic. This is disadvantageous for an agricultural province like Dinagat Islands, especially since it seeks to be self-sufficient in terms of rice and other crops by increasing its agricultural production and lessening its importation.

Hence, the establishment of a provincial National Irrigation Administration in the Municipality of Basilisa, Province of Dinagat Islands is hereby sought in order to assist the province in planning, constructing, operating, and maintaining irrigation systems consistent with integrated water resource management principles, with the end view of improving agricultural productivity and increasing farmers' income.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is fervently called for.



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

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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 3088

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

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PROVINCIAL OFFICE OF NATIONAL IRRIGATION
ADMINISTRATION IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BASILISA, 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. *Establishment of Provincial Office of National Irrigation Administration in the Dinagat Islands.* – There shall be established and maintained, under the direct supervision of the National Irrigation Administration (NIA), a Provincial Office of NIA in the Municipality of Basilisa, Province of Dinagat Islands, to be known as the NIA Dinagat Islands Provincial Office which shall undertake integrated irrigation projects to effectuate an economic means of achieving the optimal and diversified utilization and control of water.

SEC. 2. *Appropriations.* – The NIA Board of Directors shall include in the department's program the operationalization of the NIA Dinagat Islands Provincial Office, the initial funding of which shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of National Irrigation Administration, and thereafter, the succeeding funding 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 NIA Board of Directors shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 4. *Separability Clause.* Should any part or provision of this Act be held unconstitutional or invalid, the provisions which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.* Any other law, issuance, or part thereof inconsistent with this Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. *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,