

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 5904



Introduced by: REP. JUAN FIDEL FELIPE F. NOGRALES
District 4, MONTALBAN, RIZAL

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall afford full protection to labor, local and overseas, organized and unorganized, and promote full employment and equality of employment opportunities for all. Further, pursuant to Executive Order No. 126, s. 1987, it shall be the primary responsibility of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) the promotion of gainful employment opportunities and the optimization of the development and utilization of the country's manpower resources, the advancement of workers' welfare by providing for just and humane working conditions and terms of employment, and the maintenance of industrial peace by promoting harmonious, equitable, and stable employment relations that assure equal protection for the rights of all concerned parties.

According to the latest survey conducted by the Social Weather Stations (SWS) 4.7 percent or 11 million of the Philippines' 44.5 million labor force were jobless. The number was nearly 25 percent, or one in three. It was also among the highest unemployment rates in the world. According to World Bank, the average unemployment rate in Southeast Asia was just 2.9 percent even at the height of the pandemic in 2020.

Meanwhile, according to the Philippine Statistics Authority, of the estimated 11.35 million population 15 years old and over in CALABARZON Region, where Rizal Province belongs, about 64.8 percent or 7.36 million are persons in the labor force. This translates to about 648 out of 1,000 population aged 15 years and over in the region were either employed or unemployed. The unemployment rate is estimated at 13.4 percent, higher by 0.3 percentage points compared to 13.1 percent in the first quarter of 2021.

The Department of Labor and Employment is the key agency tasked to develop various programs to promote gainful employment and benefit more

employment for our citizens. DOLE has been a key partner of the Province of Rizal in ensuring that our citizens have livelihood and source of daily sustenance during the pandemic. It is also creative and innovative in implementing programs like sustainable livelihood assistance or entrepreneurship to the poor, marginalized, and vulnerable workers and providing short term wage employment assistance to displaced or underemployed workers in the informal sectors who lost their livelihood.

These programs shall be made more beneficial to the people of Rizal with the continuous, direct, and accessible partnership of DOLE with the people. This will fill the gaps in the implementation of active labor market programs that will help workers access better jobs and lack of sufficient provincial programs that will strengthen the demand for labor, especially in a geographically challenged. DOLE's relevant and effective presence in the province in the evaluation of labor market issues and formulation of labor market solutions and strategies is crucial.

In the context abovementioned, this bill proposes the establishment of a Provincial Office of Department of Labor and Employment in the Municipality of Rodriguez (Montalban), Province of Rizal. In view of the foregoing, the expeditious passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


Rep. JUAN FIDEL FELIPE F. NOGRALES
District 4, Montalban, Rizal

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AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SATELLITE OFFICE OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT (DOLE) IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF RODRIGUEZ (MONTALBAN), PROVINCE OF RIZAL
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Establishment of Satellite Office of the Department of Labor and Employment in Rodriguez (Montalban), Rizal - There shall be established, under the direct supervision of the Department of Labor and Employment, a Satellite Office of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) in the Municipality of Rodriguez (Montalban), Rizal, to be known as the DOLE Montalban Office which shall exercise jurisdiction over the Municipality of Rodriguez (Montalban), Rizal and promote gainful employment, ensure equal work opportunities, develop human resources, protect workers and promote their welfare, and maintain industrial peace.

SEC. 2. Transfer of Records and Assets. - The Secretary of the Department of Labor and Employment shall transfer the records, property, equipment, supplies, and materials pertaining to the jurisdiction and administration of the said DOLE Montalban Office, and provide all the necessary assistance in the set-up of a new satellite office in Montalban, Rizal, in accordance with existing laws and regulations.

SEC. 3. Appropriations. - The Secretary of Labor and Employment shall include in the department's program the operationalization of the DOLE Montalban Office, the initial funding of which shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the Department of Labor and Employment, and thereafter, the succeeding funding shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 4. Implementing Rules and Regulations. Within three (3) months following the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Labor and Employment shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations or policy for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 5. 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. 6. Repealing Clause. Any other law, issuance or part thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 7. 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,