

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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
2nd Regular Session

House Bill No. 9046



Introduced by Representative ERIC GO YAP

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article XIII Section 5 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides for the recognition of the right of farmers, farmworkers, and landowners, as well as cooperatives, and other independent farmers' organizations to participate in the planning, organization, and management of the program, and for the provision of support to agriculture through appropriate technology and research, and adequate financial, production, marketing, and other support services.

As stated under Section 482 of Republic Act No. 7160 or the Local Government Code of 1991, the appointment of an Agriculturist is mandatory for the provincial government and optional for the city and municipal governments. However, this provision discounts the significance of the appointment of an Agriculturist in cities and municipalities where agriculture is a significant industry or the main livelihood of the people.

Thus, this measure seeks to amend the Local Government Code of 1991, mandating the appointment of an Agriculturist in every city and municipality, where agriculture is a significant industry or the main livelihood of the people, mandatory. As issues and concerns on agriculture continue to disrupt the livelihood of our farmers and the food security of our nation, the mandatory appointment of an Agriculturist in certain cities and municipalities is of the essence.

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


HON. ERIC GO YAP

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AN ACT

MAKING THE APPOINTMENT OF AN AGRICULTURIST MANDATORY IN MUNICIPALITIES WHERE AGRICULTURE IS A SIGNIFICANT INDUSTRY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE AND 482 (A) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991

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

SEC. 1. Section 482 (a) of Republic Act No. 7160 as amended, otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991" is hereby further amended as follows:

"Sec 482. Qualifications, Powers and Duties. - (a) x x x

The position of the agriculturist shall be mandatory for the provincial government and optional for the city and municipal governments: **PROVIDED, THAT INsofar AS CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES WHERE AGRICULTURE IS A SIGNIFICANT INDUSTRY OR WHERE THE MAIN LIVELIHOOD IS AGRICULTURAL IN NATURE, THE APPOINTMENT OF A CITY OR MUNICIPAL AGRICULTURIST SHALL BE MANDATORY.**

SEC. 3. *Implementing Agency.*- The Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the Department of Agriculture (DA), in coordination with local government units, shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementations of this Act.

SEC. 4. *Appropriations Clause.* The amount necessary for the effective implementation of this Act shall be included in the general appropriations Act of the year following its enactment.

SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.*- Other relevant provisions of the R.A. No. 7160, insofar as the appointment of agriculturist is concerned, and any law, decree,

executive order, and rules and regulations, or portions thereof not consistent with this Act are hereby amended accordingly.

SEC. 6. *Separability Clause.*- Should any part or provisions of this Act be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining parts or provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 7. *Effectivity.*- This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication either in the Official Gazette or in newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,