

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
19TH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session



House Bill No. 10273

**Introduced by Representative
MICHAEL L. ROMERO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In the Republic of the Philippines, it is vital to strengthen the development and implementation of population-related plans, policies and projects in the pursuit of socio-economic development reforms and programs, the Commission on Population is now reattached with the **National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) by virtue of Executive Order No. 71** signed by President Rodrigo Duterte.

EO No. 71 renames the Commission on Population (**POPCOM**) to Commission on Population and Development, while its reattachment to NEDA is seen to strengthen the integration of population and development to increase the country's economic growth as indicated in the **Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2017-2022**.

The Commission on Population as a government agency was created through **Presidential Decree (PD) 79. From 1991 until 2003**, POPCOM was an attached agency of NEDA before its supervision was placed under the **Department of Health (DOH) through EO 188** of then President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo.

Despite being renamed as Commission on Population and Development, it will still be popularly named as POPCOM and carry on its mandate to formulate and adopt coherent, integrated and comprehensive long-term plans, programs and recommendations on population as it relates to economic and social development consistent with and implementing the population policy which shall be submitted to and approved by the President.

It shall make comprehensive studies of demographic data and expected demographic trends and propose policies that affect specific and quantitative population goals.

Under the PDP for 2017-2022, the government seeks to lay down the foundation of an economic growth that can be further accelerated and sustained beyond the six years of the Duterte administration. With the goal of laying down a robust foundation for a sustainable economic growth, the plan employs strategies that will help in pursuing an efficient population management to enable its citizens to be productive and engaged in economic activities.

The age structure of the country's population matters in pursuing economic growth. In this vein, the government intends to aggressively manage its population such that people of working age will comprise the bulk of the population (*that results from demographic transition*). To reap what is called the demographic dividend from this transition, the government will ensure that this workforce will be productive so that it can well support the dependents comprising the young and old.

POPCOM remains in fully implementing the **Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Law** and in attaining and sustaining zero unmet need as means to empower Filipino families.

WHEREAS Executive Order No. 71 (s. 2018) renamed the POPCOM as the **Commission on Population and Development (CPD)**.

This House bill seeks to guarantee the advancing of the country's population and development policies and programs towards increased share and opportunity of each Filipino in socioeconomic progress, the enhancement of our forces and policies.

Furthermore, this House bill seeks to attain a better quality of life for all Filipinos through management and maintenance of population level resources and the environment.

This house bill seeks to provide a comprehensive **National Population Management Plan**.

Thus, the early passage of this bill is earnestly requested.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael L. Romero', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

MICHAEL L. ROMERO Ph.D.

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL
POPULATION MANAGEMENT PLAN, TO STRENGTHEN
THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF
POPULATION-RELATED PLANS, POLICIES AND
PROJECTS IN THE PURSUIT OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT REFORMS AND PROGRAMS AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. - This Act shall be known as the "
National Population Management Act of 2024".

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY. The State shall recognize that the population problem is a principal element in long-range planning if the government is to achieve their economic goals and fulfill the aspirations of their people.

It shall strengthen the integration of population and development to increase the country's economic growth as indicated in the **Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2023-2028**.

The state shall hereby be a declared policy of the state to elevate our capacity to preserve and protect its population.

It shall carry on its mandate to formulate and adopt coherent, integrated and comprehensive long-term plans, programs and recommendations on population as it relates to economic and social development consistent with and implementing the population policy.

The state shall strengthen institutional capacities to formulate, coordinate and implement integrated population and development strategies, policies, and programs based on socioeconomic and demographic data, information and knowledge.

It shall hereby provide the necessary support to fund and establish the immediate population development strategies.

The State shall spearhead the application of modern techniques and technology to ensure the preservation and development of its population. Thus, to ensure the well-being of the entire nation.

SECTION 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL POPULATION MANAGEMENT PLAN — There shall hereby be established a comprehensive cybersecurity development program.

Existing structures, facilities and equipment's that would meet the standard requirements could be upgraded to effectively serve and be designated as such in compliance with rules and regulations set by the National Economic Development Authority (**NEDA**) and the Commission on Population and Development (**CPD**).

SECTION 4. SUPERVISING AND ASSESSMENT CONCERNS. — the National Economic Development Authority (**NEDA**) and the Commission on Population and Development (**CPD**) shall provide the necessary technical and financial assistance to ensure the effective operations and build-up.

SECTION 5. IMPLEMENTING AGENCY. — the National Economic Development Authority (**NEDA**).

SECTION 6. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. —

Within ninety **(90)** days from the effectivity of this Act, the National Economic Development Authority (**NEDA**) shall, in consultation with other concerned government and private agencies, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 7. TRANSITORY PROVISION – Existing industries, businesses and offices affected by the implementation of this Act shall be given six **(6)** months transitory period from the effectivity of the **IRR** or such other period as may be determined, to comply with the requirements of this Act.

SECTION 8. PROGRESS REPORT – The Secretary of **NEDA** shall prepare an annual report on the status of the implementation of the **(CPD)** Modernization Programs which shall be submitted, to the Office of the **President** and to the Chairpersons of the Committee on Economic Affairs of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

SECTION 9. INCREASE OF PERSONNEL. – The **commission on population development (CPD)** shall maintain a sufficient staffing pattern. Hence, it is authorized to increase its manpower to meet such required and may continue to increase personnel per percentage rate increase of committed mandates annually or as the need arises.

SECTION 10. PERIOD OF IMPLEMENTATION – The modernization program under this Act shall be implemented for an initial period of three **(3)** years:

Provided, that payments for multi-year contract obligations incurred under this Act may extend beyond this period:

Provided, further, That the **commission on population development (CPD)** shall continue to develop, modernize and constantly update its operational capabilities to keep pace with best global practices.

SECTION 11. PERIODIC REPORTS - The Secretary of **(NEDA)** shall submit periodic reports on its findings and make recommendations on actions to be taken by both Congress and Senate and the appropriate departments, in order to carry out the objectives and mandates of this Act.

SECTION 12. AUTOMATIC REVIEW - Every three **(3)** years after the effectivity of this Act, an independent review panel composed of experts to be appointed by the **President** of the Republic shall review the policies and programs in the defense and security sector and shall make recommendations, based on its findings, to the President and to both Houses of Congress.

SECTION 13. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. — If any provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 14. REPEALING CLAUSE. — All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, and other issuances, or parts thereof, contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby modified, amended or repealed accordingly.

SECTION 15. EFFECTIVITY. — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,