



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 602



Introduced by Rep. Edwin C. Ongchuan

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In support of President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr.'s Executive Order no. 18, s. 2023 "**CONSTITUTING GREEN LANES FOR STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS**," this bill seeks to institutionalize the position of Local Economic Development and Investment Promotions Officer (LEDIPO) in local government units (LGUs) by amending Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991." The creation of a permanent LEDIPO position aims to ensure continuity, stability, and effectiveness in implementing investment-related initiatives that drive local economic growth.

On October 13, 2010, the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) issued Memorandum Circular (MC) No. 2010-113 encouraging all Provincial Governors and City Mayors to designate a Local Economic Development and Investment Promotions Officer (LEDIPO). The purpose was to promote a more conducive business and investment climate in localities to attract both local and foreign investors.

Subsequent issuances reaffirmed and expanded this directive. DILG MC No. 2011-16 established the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Sub-Committee under the Local Development Councils, to be chaired by the LEDIPO. In support of this, DILG and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) jointly issued MC No. 2011-01, mandating the formulation of the Local Investment and Incentives Code (LIIC), a policy framework aligned with national investment strategies and best facilitated by trained LEDIPOs.

Recognizing the growing importance of LEDIPOs in driving local economic development, DILG issued MC No. 2020-167, reiterating the roles and responsibilities of designated LEDIPOs and urging LGUs to institutionalize this function. This circular emphasized the strategic role of LEDIPOs in promoting economic resilience, strengthening partnerships, and implementing investment-related policies, especially as LGUs recover from socio-economic disruptions.

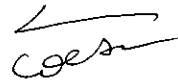
In support of the same objectives, Executive Order No. 18, s. 2023, was issued by the President Ferdinand Marcos, Jr. to establish Green Lanes for strategic investments in all government agencies and local government units. This Executive Order aims to streamline the permitting process and expedite the delivery of services for priority investment projects. Under this directive, local government units are expected to assign

a focal person or office, commonly the LEDIPO, to oversee and facilitate Green Lane processes to ensure timely and coordinated action in support of investors.

Despite these policy advancements, the current designation of LEDIPOs remains largely temporary, coterminous with the appointing local chief executive. This lack of permanence poses a risk to the continuity and consistency of economic development programs. Moreover, any replacement would require renewed capacity building and disrupt ongoing initiatives.

Therefore, this bill proposes the creation of a permanent LEDIPO position in all provincial, city, and first- and second-class municipal governments, and on an optional basis for third- to sixth-class municipalities. Institutionalizing this role will ensure program stability, effective implementation of investment policies, and professional growth for LEDIPOs, thereby strengthening local economic governance and national competitiveness.

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



EDWIN C. ONGCHUAN
Representative
Second District, Northern Samar



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HOUSE BILL NO. 602

Introduced by Rep. Edwin C. Ongchuan

**AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE POSITION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AND INVESTMENT PROMOTIONS OFFICER IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS THE "LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991"**

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

SECTION 1. Section 443 of Republic Act No. 7160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 443. *Officials of the Municipal Government.* - (a) There shall be in each municipality a municipal mayor, a municipal vice mayor, sangguniang bayan members, a secretary to the sangguniang bayan, a municipal treasurer, a municipal assessor, a municipal accountant, a municipal budget officer, a municipal planning and development coordinator, a municipal engineer/building official, a municipal health officer and a municipal civil registrar. **FOR FIRST AND SECOND CLASS MUNICIPALITIES, THERE SHALL ALSO BE A MUNICIPAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT PROMOTIONS OFFICER.**

(b) In addition thereto, the mayor may appoint a municipal administrator, a municipal legal officer, a municipal agriculturist, a municipal environment and natural resources officer, a municipal social welfare and development officer, a municipal architect, a municipal information officer. **THE MAYOR OF THIRD TO SIXTH CLASS MUNICIPALITIES MAY ALSO APPOINT A MUNICIPAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT PROMOTIONS OFFICER.**

(c)

(d)

(e) xxx."

SECTION. 2. Section 454 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 454. *Officials of the City Government.* - (a) There shall be in each city a mayor, a vice mayor, Sangguniang panlungsod members, a secretary to the Sangguniang panlungsod, a city treasurer, a city assessor, a city accountant, a city engineer, a city health officer, a city civil registrar, a city administrator, a city legal officer, a city veterinarian, a city social welfare and development officer, a city general services officer **AND A CITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT PROMOTIONS OFFICER.**

(b)

(c)

(d)

(e) xxx."

SECTION 3. Section 463 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 463. *Officials of the Provincial Government.* - (a) There shall be in each province a governor, a vice governor, members of the sangguniang panlalawigan, a secretary to the sangguniang panlalawigan, a provincial treasurer, a provincial assessor, a provincial accountant, a provincial engineer, a provincial budget officer, a provincial planning and development coordinator, a provincial legal officer, a provincial administrator, a provincial health officer, a provincial social welfare and development officer, a provincial general services officer, a provincial agriculturist, [and] a provincial veterinarian **AND A PROVINCIAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT PROMOTIONS OFFICER.**

(b)

(c)

(d)

(e) xxx."

SECTION. 4. A new section to be denominated as Section 490-A under the new Article Twenty-One of Book III, Title Five, of the same Act is hereby inserted to read as follows:

"ARTICLE TWENTY-ONE. - THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT PROMOTIONS OFFICER

SEC. 490-A. QUALIFICATIONS, POWERS AND DUTIES. (A) NO PERSON SHALL BE APPOINTED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT PROMOTIONS OFFICER UNLESS THE PERSON IS A CITIZEN OF THE PHILIPPINES, A RESIDENT OF THE PROVINCE, CITY OR MUNICIPALITY WHERE SUCH PERSON WILL BE APPOINTED, OF GOOD MORAL CHARACTER, A HOLDER OF A COLLEGE DEGREE PREFERABLY IN ECONOMICS, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION OR BUSINESS MANAGEMENT, LAW, OR ANY RELATED COURSE FROM A RECOGNIZED COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY, AND A FIRST GRADE CIVIL SERVICE ELIGIBLE OR ITS EQUIVALENT. THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT PROMOTIONS OFFICER MUST

HAVE ACQUIRED EXPERIENCE IN ECONOMIC OR INVESTMENT POLICY MAKING OR MANAGEMENT OR RELATED FIELD FOR AT LEAST FIVE (5) YEARS IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL AND CITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT PROMOTIONS OFFICER, AND THREE (3) YEARS IN THE CASE OF THE MUNICIPAL ECONOMIC AND INVESTMENT OFFICER.

FOR THE PROVINCIAL, CITY, AND FIRST AND SECOND CLASS MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS, THE APPOINTMENT OF AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT PROMOTIONS OFFICER IS MANDATORY AND OPTIONAL FOR THIRD TO SIXTH CLASS MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS.

(B) THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT PROMOTIONS OFFICER SHALL TAKE CHARGE OF THE ECONOMIC AND INVESTMENT PROMOTIONS OFFICE AND SHALL:

1. FORMULATE AND IMPLEMENT THE LOCAL INVESTMENT AND INCENTIVES CODE;
2. FACILITATE THE PREPARATION, COORDINATION AND EXECUTION OF LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT PROMOTION POLICIES, PROJECTS, AND ACTIVITIES OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT;
3. FACILITATE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SYSTEMATIC, COORDINATED AND SUSTAINED PROMOTION AND MARKETING OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT AS AN INVESTMENT LOCATION;
4. PROVIDE BASIC INFORMATION ON THE BUSINESS POTENTIALS OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT TO PROSPECTIVE INVESTORS TO ATTRACT MORE INVESTMENTS TO FLOW IN THE COMMUNITY;
5. ADVISE THE SANGGUNIAN, THE GOVERNOR OR MAYOR AND OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ON THE GENERATION OF INVESTMENTS AND ON SUCH OTHER MATTERS RELATIVE TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT;
6. PROVIDE DATABASE OF INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES, TENURIAL SECURITY, AND INCENTIVE PROGRAMS TO DEVELOP, UTILIZE AND MANAGE SPECIFIC PORTIONS OF BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT AND INVESTMENT CLIMATE IN THE LOCALITY;
7. COORDINATE WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN CARRYING OUT INVESTMENT PROMOTION CAMPAIGNS;
8. CONDUCT INFORMATION DISSEMINATION ON LOCAL AND NATIONAL GOVERNMENT POLICIES ON INVESTMENTS; AND
9. EXERCISE SUCH OTHER POWERS AND PERFORM SUCH OTHER DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS AS MAY BE PRESCRIBED BY LAW OR ORDINANCE.

SECTION 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations - Within ninety (90) days from the approval of this Act, the Secretary of Interior and Local Government, in coordination with the Presidents of the League of Provinces, League of Cities and League of Municipalities and the Secretary of Budget and Management, shall promulgate the rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this Act. The implementing rules and regulations issued pursuant to this section shall take effect thirty (30) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

SECTION 6. Separability Clause - If any provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 7. Repealing Clause – Existing laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, proclamations or administrative regulations that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby amended, modified, superseded or repealed accordingly.

SECTION 8. Effectivity Clause - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,