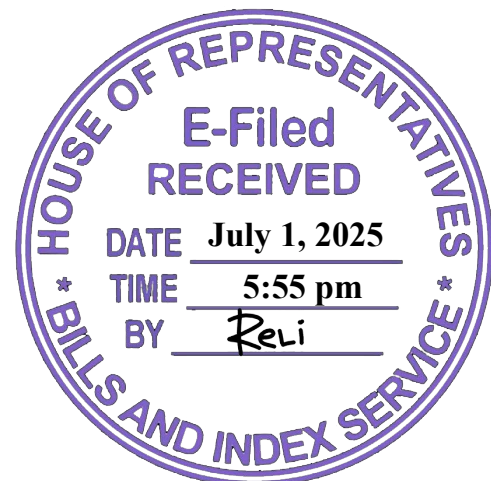


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1006



Introduced by Lone District of Agusan del Norte Representative
HON. DALE B. CORVERA

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING AN EXTENSION OFFICE OF THE MARITIME INDUSTRY
AUTHORITY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NASIPIT, PROVINCE OF
AGUSAN DEL NORTE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Province of Agusan del Norte is comprised mainly by coastal communities – of the 10 municipalities and one (1) component city comprising the province, only the Municipalities of Remedios T. Romualdez, Santiago and Las Nieves have no coastal area. The province is bordered by Butuan Bay on the northwest; by the Province of Surigao del Norte on the northeast; by the Province of Surigao del Sur on the mid-east; by the Province of Agusan del Sur on the southeast; and by the Province of Misamis Oriental on the southwest. Its territory also encompasses large bodies of water such as the Lake Mainit (fourth largest lake in the country), Agusan River (third longest river in the country) and the Butuan Bay.

Establishing a MARINA Extension Office in the Municipality of Nasipit is strategically aligned with the vision of the Province of Agusan del Norte of becoming the agricultural processing center and industrial estate zone of Caraga. The Municipality of Nasipit was identified by the Caraga Regional Development Council through Resolution Number 44, series of 1996, as the Regional Agri-Industrial Growth Center of the Caraga Region. In line with this, the Nasipit Agusan del Norte Industrial Estate (NANIE) was conceived and presently being developed by PEZA to make use of the area's full potential as the main industrial center of the Caraga Region. Phase III of the NANIE Project involves the development of 67 hectares of land as a shipyard facility for an integrated ship repair and manufacturing area.

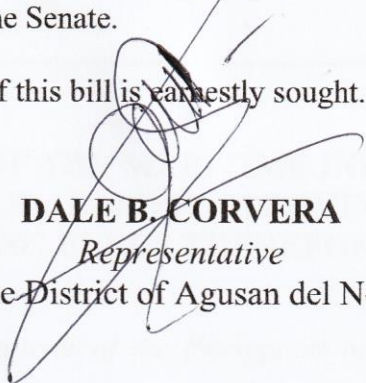
The Municipality of Nasipit is also advantageously located and proximate enough to serve not only the stakeholders in the Province of Agusan del Norte, but also those of the neighboring maritime stakeholders from the Provinces of Misamis Oriental, Agusan del Sur, Surigao del Sur and Surigao del Norte, as well as the Highly Urbanized City of Butuan. In fact, in the Province of Agusan del Norte alone, there are more than 2,800 registered seafarers already who will be served by the MARINA extension office. The extension office will serve other maritime enterprises in the area, including shipping companies, maritime higher education institutions, maritime training centers and ship agents.

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The demand for processing of seafarer deployment documents in the Caraga Region continues to grow – from the monthly average of 58 Certificates in 2018, the figure jumped to a monthly average of 188 Certificates in 2020, 601 Certificates in 2021, and 810 Certificates for the current year. As shipping, seafaring and other maritime activities in the Caraga Region and neighboring provinces continue to grow, the demand for the establishment of the MARINA Extension Office in Nasipit only intensifies.

This version of the bill is a rehash of HB 9300 which was filed during the 19th Congress and approved by the House of Representatives on third reading on 07 November 2023. Unfortunately, no counterpart bill was filed by the Senate.

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



DALE B. CORVERA
Representative
Lone District of Agusan del Norte

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

SECTION. 1. An extension office of the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) Region XIII is hereby established in the Municipality of Nasipit, Province of Agusan del Norte. The MARINA Nasipit office shall provide services for the maritime stakeholders in the Province of Agusan del Norte, other neighboring provinces, and the City of Butuan.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of Transportation, through the Administrator of MARINA, is hereby authorized to reorganize the offices, personnel, funds, and properties of MARINA Region XIII for the effective delivery of services pursuant to this Act.

SEC. 3. The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 4. Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the MARINA Administrator shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to efficiently carry out the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,