

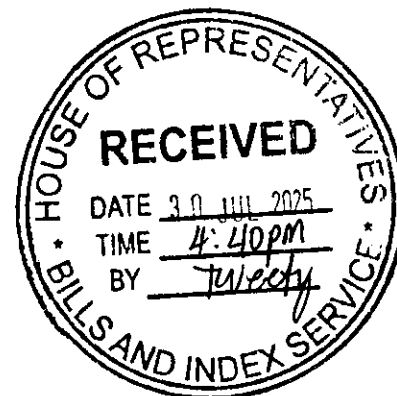


Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2706



**Introduced by Representatives Albert S. Garcia, Maria Angela S. Garcia, and
Jernie Jett V. Nisay**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It has been widely reported that Metro Manila's traffic problems are causing significant losses to our economy amounting to P3.5 billion a day, and will increase to P5.4 billion if left unchecked according to a study by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Inadequate utilization of resources coupled with ineffective planning have resulted in debilitating traffic, pollution, and overcrowding within Metro Manila.

Recent developments within the Province of Bataan and its surrounding localities necessitates resources beyond what the Provincial Government can provide. With the construction of the *Bataan Cavite-Interlink Bridge (BCIB)* as well as the rapid economic growth that Bataan is experiencing, the Provincial Government will not have the adequate resources to handle the possible effects of rapid urbanization and the other challenges that will come with the linking of two high-growth regions.

With Bataan poised to become the next mega hub akin to Metro Manila, a dedicated development authority that will help plan and manage the trajectory of the region will be necessary to avoid the problems seen in other urban areas within the country.

The establishment of the Metro Bataan Development Authority (MBDA) seeks to address this problem. This bill will establish the MBDA as a centralized planning authority and shared implementation resource for the various government institutions in the Province of Bataan and its surrounding areas.

The establishment of the MBDA is seen as a vital step towards addressing future risks and helping ensure that growth and development remains sustainable which will impact not only Bataan, but also throughout CALABARZON and the entire country as well.

Support for this measure is earnestly sought from our colleagues.

REP. ALBERT S. GARCIA
Second District, Bataan

REP. MARIA ANGELA S. GARCIA
Third District, Bataan

REP. JERNIE JETT V. NISAY
Pusong-Pinoy Partylist



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**AN ACT
CREATING THE METRO BATAAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, DEFINING ITS
POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

Section 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Metro Bataan Development
Authority Act.”

Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to
pursue the acceleration of social, economic, and political development of local
government units (LGUs) and their communities through the creation of special
development and administrative areas that will ensure the efficient and effective
planning, supervision, and coordination of essential basic services, without prejudice to
the autonomy of the LGUs concerned. The State shall encourage LGUs to group
themselves to coordinate efforts, services and resources for purposes commonly
beneficial to their respective constituencies. Towards this end, the Metro Bataan
Development Authority (MBDA) is constituted - to integrate and coordinate the delivery
of certain basic services as well as enforcement of laws, rules and regulations in the
Province of Bataan and adjacent areas.

Sec. 3. *Creation of the MBDA.* – There is hereby created a special body to be
known as the Metropolitan Bataan Development Authority, which shall be organized
within thirty (30) days after the approval of this Act, to coordinate and promote
socioeconomic growth and sustainable development of Metro Bataan.

1 The MBDA shall be under the administrative supervision of the Office of the
2 President of the Philippines. The MBDA shall administer a special development and
3 administrative area embracing the Province of Bataan, the City of Balanga, the
4 municipalities of Hermosa, Orani, Abucay, Samal, Orion, Limay, Mariveles, Morong,
5 Bagac, Pilar, and Dinalupihan, which includes its land, water and air territory including
6 its municipal, city, and provincial waters, air territory, the connecting metro-wide road
7 networks to the AFAB, and the SCTEx connecting the CDC, Bataan and SBMA.

8 Metro Bataan's coverage may be expanded upon the recommendation of the
9 Council and the approval of the President, provided the areas are contiguous to and
10 directly connected with Metro Bataan.

11 The MBDA shall execute the powers and functions herein vested which shall,
12 however, in no way diminish the autonomy of the LGUs of Metropolitan Bataan
13 concerning purely local matters, within the framework and subject to the mandate and
14 limitations of the Constitution and the pertinent provisions of Republic Act No. 7160,
15 otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991".

16 Sec. 4. *Scope of MBDA Services.* – The MBDA shall have the authority to provide
17 services to the entire province of Bataan and to areas covering the road networks or
18 expressways connecting the territory of Bataan to other provinces and economic or
19 freeport zones.

20 The MBDA shall perform the following services:

21 (a) Assistance to the Planning Offices of the LGUs in Bataan and the freeport
22 and special zone authorities of Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA),
23 Authority of the Freeport Area of Bataan (AFAB), Clark Development
24 Corporation (CDC), and Subic-Clark Alliance for Development (SCAD) in the
25 development planning, in case the need arises, which includes the
26 preparation of proposed medium and long-term development plans, the
27 development, evaluation and packaging of proposed projects, investment
28 programming, and coordination and monitoring of plans, programs and
29 projects required by the provincial development plan as approved by the
30 *Sanggunian or Board of Directors* concerned. *Provided*, that the Planning
31 Offices shall have primary jurisdiction over development planning in said
32 provinces, city, municipality or freeport/ecozone authority, as the case may
33 be.

1 (b) With respect to provincial and national roads, transportation and traffic
2 management, the coordination and monitoring of policies, standards,
3 programs, projects and transport plans approved by the Council to rationalize
4 the existing transport operations in coordination with the Department of
5 Transportation (DOTr); the determination, planning, procurement, and
6 provision of infrastructure requirements in coordination with the DPWH; the
7 enhancement of the safe use of thoroughfares; the promotion of safe and
8 convenient movement of persons and goods; the provision of transport
9 systems and the establishment of a system to regulate road users; the
10 administration and implementation of all traffic enforcement operations; the
11 provision of traffic engineering services and the provision of traffic services
12 and traffic education programs; and a single ticketing system in Metro
13 Bataan.

14 (c) Solid waste disposal and management which includes the formulation and
15 implementation of policies, standards, programs and projects for proper and
16 sanitary waste disposal; the establishment and operation of sanitary landfill
17 and other related facilities; and the implementation of other alternative
18 programs intended to reduce, reuse and recycle solid waste. This is without
19 prejudice to the authority and right of LGUs to perform these services or enter
20 into agreements providing such services in coordination with the DENR;

21 (d) Assistance in flood control and sewerage management which include the
22 formulation and implementation of policies, standards, programs and projects
23 for an integrated flood control, drainage and sewerage system. This is without
24 prejudice to the authority and right of LGUs to perform these services or enter
25 into agreements providing such services in coordination with the DPWH;

26 (e) Assistance in urban renewal, zoning, land use planning, and shelter services,
27 which includes the formulation, adoption and implementation of policies on
28 standards, rules and regulations, programs and projects pertaining to the
29 rationalization and optimization of land use, and assistance in the formulation
30 of growth and expansion plans, the rehabilitation and development of slum
31 and blighted areas, the development of shelter and housing facilities, and the
32 provision of necessary social services thereof. This is without prejudice to the
33 authority and right of LGUs to perform these services or enter into

1 agreements providing such services in coordination with the appropriate
2 national agency;

3 (f) Assistance in health and sanitation protection and pollution control which
4 includes the implementation of policies, rules and regulations, standards,
5 programs and projects for the promotion and safeguarding of health and
6 sanitation of the province and the enhancement of ecological balance and
7 the prevention, control and abatement of environmental pollution; and

8 (g) Ensuring disaster resilience through the implementation of programs, policies
9 and procedures to achieve preparedness for preventive or rescue operations
10 during times of calamities and disasters such as conflagrations earthquakes,
11 flood and tidal waves; and coordination and mobilization of resources and the
12 implementation of contingency plans for rehabilitation and relief operations.

13 (h) Public safety, which includes formulating and implementing programs,
14 policies and procedures to achieve public safety, especially preparedness for
15 preventive or rescue operations during times of calamity and disaster such
16 as conflagration, earthquakes, flood; and coordinating and mobilizing
17 resources and implementing contingency plans for rehabilitation and relief
18 operations in coordination with national agencies concerned; and

19 (i) Digitalization of payments for government disbursements and collections, as
20 provided in Executive Order No. 170, series of 2022 and other relevant laws.

21 *Sec. 5. Functions and Powers of the Metro Bataan Development Authority.* – The
22 MBDA shall:

23 (a) Formulate, coordinate and monitor the implementation of approved medium
24 and long-term plans and programs for the delivery of metro-wide services,
25 consistent with the national development objectives and priorities;

26 (b) Undertake and manage approved plans and projects for the delivery of
27 specific services under its jurisdiction, subject to the approval of the Council;

28 (c) Undertake and formulate plans, policies and development initiatives towards
29 the promotion of the Blue and Green Economy within the MBDA's area of
30 jurisdiction to balance economic development with environmental
31 sustainability. This includes but is not limited to the formulation and
32 implementation of integrated coastal management plans, green urban
33 planning initiatives, climate adaptation policies, and other innovative policies
34 and programs for environmental sustainability. For purposes of this Act, the

1 green and blue economy concept refers to a framework for developing the
2 economy while managing environmental risks and promoting environmental
3 sustainability towards preserving the locality's natural resources.

- 4 (d) Coordinate, monitor and adopt solutions to problems of implementation of
5 such plans, programs and projects in the province, identify bottlenecks and
6 adopt solutions to the problems of implementation;
- 7 (e) Implement existing and approved traffic policies on metro-wide provincial and
8 national roads, coordinate and regulate the implementation of all approved
9 programs and projects concerning traffic management on provincial and
10 national roads specifically pertaining to enforcement, engineering and
11 education; *Provided*, That upon request by LGUs and other government
12 agencies and with the approval of the Council, it shall extend assistance and
13 cooperation including the assignment of personnel to such LGUs and other
14 government agencies and offices;
- 15 (f) Issue tickets, citations and collect fines and penalties for violations of traffic
16 rules and regulations on metro-wide provincial and national roads, whether
17 moving or non-moving in nature;
- 18 (g) Enter into contracts, approved by the Council to enable it to carry out its
19 purpose and functions under this Act; and
- 20 (h) Perform other related functions to achieve the objectives of the MBDA and
21 provide the services in Section 5 of this Act, including the undertaking of
22 delivery of basic services to the LGUs not otherwise provided by in Section 5
23 of this Act, when deemed necessary subject to prior coordination with and
24 consent of the LGU concerned and the Council.
- 25 (i) To be vested with other powers enjoyed or exercised by other metropolitan
26 development authorities.

27 **Sec. 6. Metro Bataan Development Council.** – The governing board and
28 policymaking body of the MBDA shall be the Metropolitan Bataan Development Council,
29 herein referred to as "Council", which shall be composed of the Governor as *ex-officio*
30 Chairperson of the Council, the Mayors of the City of Balanga, the Municipalities of
31 Abucay, Bagac, Dinalupihan, Hermosa, Limay, Mariveles, Morong, Orani, Orion, Pilar,
32 and Samal, the Administrator of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA), the
33 Administrator of the Authority of the Freeport Area of Bataan (AFAB), the President
34 and CEO of the Clark Development Corporation (CDC), and the Chairperson of the

1 Subic-Clark Alliance for Development (SCAD) as *ex-officio* members. The Region-III
2 regional directors of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG),
3 Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Public
4 Works and Highways (DPWH), Office of Civil Defense (OCD), Philippine National Police
5 (PNP), the Commander of the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) National Capital Region-
6 Central Luzon District, and the President and CEO of the Bases Conversion and
7 Development Authority (BCDA) shall be *ex-officio* members of the Council without
8 voting rights.

9 The members of the Council may be modified or expanded upon a majority vote
10 of members of the council as it may deem necessary.

11 *Sec. 7. Functions and Powers of the Metro Bataan Development Council.* – The
12 Council as the policy making body of the MBDA, shall exercise the following functions:

- 13 (a) Approve the development plans, investment programs, and projects after
14 consultation and coordination with the LGUs and other stakeholders
15 operating in the Metro Bataan Area;
- 16 (b) Formulate and issue resolutions, rules and regulations deemed necessary by
17 the MBDA to carry out the purposes of this Act;
- 18 (c) Recommend Investment programming for its plans and programs as well as
19 supervise the implementation of plans and programs which will include the
20 formulation and coordination of its related activities;
- 21 (d) Coordinate and work closely with the DOTr and its attached agencies in
22 policy formulation for the grant of franchises to safe, reliable, and
23 environment-friendly public utility vehicles within the MBDA jurisdiction;
- 24 (e) Approve the annual budget of the MBDA for submission to the Department
25 of Budget and Management (DBM), and endorse the annual as well as the
26 supplemental budgets of the MMDA; and
- 27 (f) Perform such other acts and assume such other functions as may be
28 consistent and necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

29 *Sec. 8. Official Misconduct.* – The MBDA shall exercise its functions and powers
30 impartially, without regard to the political interests or affiliations of the members of the
31 Council. Failure to do so shall constitute official misconduct punishable by law, in
32 particular, Section 3 of Republic Act No. 3019, otherwise known as the “Anti-Graft and
33 Corrupt Practices Act”, and shall, following observance of due process, result in the
34 immediate termination of the erring MBDA officer or personnel.

1 Sec. 9. *Metro Bataan Development Authority Administrator.* – The MBDA shall
2 be headed by an Administrator, to be appointed by the President of the Philippines as
3 endorsed by the Council. The Administrator shall have a term of three (3) years unless
4 otherwise removed for cause in accordance with law, and have the rights, rank,
5 disqualifications, and prohibitions of an Undersecretary under existing civil service rules
6 and regulations. The Administrator shall not be related to any member of the Council
7 within the fourth civil degree of consanguinity or affinity.

8 The Administrator shall be assisted by a Deputy Administrator for Finance and
9 Administration, a Deputy Administrator for Central Planning, and a Deputy Administrator
10 for Operations, all of whom shall be appointed by the Administrator with the concurrence
11 of the Council, subject to civil service laws, rules and regulations. They shall enjoy
12 security of tenure unless otherwise removed for cause in accordance with law. The
13 Deputy Administrator for Finance and Administration, the Deputy Administrator for
14 Central Planning, and the Deputy Administrator for Operations shall not be related to
15 the Administrator or any member of the Council within the fourth civil degree of
16 consanguinity or affinity.

17 Sec. 10. *Functions of the Administrator.* – The Administrator shall:

- 18 (a) Appoint, subject to Civil Service laws, rules and regulations, all subordinate
19 officers and employees, who shall enjoy security of tenure and may be
20 removed only for cause in accordance with law. The Administrator is hereby
21 authorized to engage the services of experts or consultants either in full-time
22 or part-time basis, as may be required in the performance of his functions
23 and duties as may be determined by him;
- 24 (b) Execute the policies, measures, and programs approved by the Council and
25 be responsible for the efficient and effective day-to-day management of the
26 operations of the MBDA;
- 27 (c) Prepare the annual budget for the operations of the MBDA for the
28 consideration and approval of the Council;
- 29 (d) Submit for consideration of the Council such other duties and measures as
30 may be deemed necessary to carry out the purposes and provisions of this
31 Act;
- 32 (e) Subject to the Civil Service Decree, rules and regulations, and the approval
33 of the Council, determine the staffing pattern, fix the compensation of the
34 officers and personnel of the MBDA in accordance with the Salary

1 Standardization Law, and fix the number of subordinate officials and
2 employees of the MBDA and exercise the power to discipline subordinate
3 officials and employees under the provisions of law;

4 (f) Supervise the operation of various operating centers and units of the MBDA;

5 (g) Formulate and recommend policies and programs to the Council for the
6 efficient delivery of province-wide or inter-province wide services;

7 (h) Prepare an annual report on the activities and accomplishments of the MBDA
8 at the close of each year for submission to the Council and the Office of the
9 President;

10 (i) Ensure that all information, official records, documents and papers pertaining
11 to official acts, transactions or decisions of the Council and the MBDA,
12 including research data used by the Council and the MBDA as basis for policy
13 development, are preserved and made available to the public when
14 requested; and

15 (j) Perform other duties and functions as may be lawfully delegated or assigned
16 by the Council from time to time.

17 **Sec. 11. MBDA Central Planning Office.** – There is hereby created a Planning
18 Office in the MBDA as its planning and policy coordinating body that will, in coordination
19 with or in assistance to, the LGUs and other members of the Metro Bataan Development
20 Council, formulate and implement comprehensive urban or regional development plans
21 within its area of jurisdiction. It shall be supervised by the Deputy Administrator for
22 Central Planning. Its specific tasks include, but shall not be limited to, zoning and land
23 use management, transportation planning, development review, project evaluation and
24 monitoring, data and analysis research, socio-economic policy formulation,
25 environmental planning and public engagement and stakeholder coordination,
26 advocacy and capacity development. The Central Planning Office shall contain the
27 following divisions: infrastructure, zoning and land use management division,
28 transportation planning division, socio-economic policy division, tourism policy division,
29 and environmental management division. The specific staffing pattern of the Central
30 Planning Office and its divisions shall be submitted by the Administrator in accordance
31 with Section 10 of this Act.

32 **Sec. 12. MBDA Finance and Administration Office** - There is hereby created a
33 Finance and Administration office in the MBDA that shall supervise its financial and
34 administrative concerns. It shall be supervised by the Deputy Administrator for Finance

1 and Administration. The Finance and Administration Office shall contain a Finance
2 Division and an Administration Division. The specific staffing pattern of the Finance and
3 Administration Office and its divisions shall be submitted by the Administrator in
4 accordance with Section 10 of this Act.

5 Sec. 13. MBDA Operations Office - There is hereby created an Operations Office
6 in the MBDA that shall supervise its operational mandates. These operational mandates
7 shall include but will not be limited to the following: traffic management, disaster and
8 emergency response, medical response, maritime security, and information systems
9 management. It shall be supervised by the Deputy Administrator for Operations. The
10 Operations Office shall contain the following divisions: tactical operations division,
11 emergency operations division, medics operations division, maritime operations
12 divisions, and management of information systems (MIS) division. The specific staffing
13 pattern of the Operations Office and its divisions shall be submitted by the Administrator
14 in accordance with Section 10 of this Act.

15 Sec. 14. *Institutional Linkages of the MBDA.* – The MBDA shall, in carrying out
16 its functions, consult, coordinate and work closely with the LGUs, the DPWH, DOTr and
17 other national government agencies; the SBMA, for properties under its territorial
18 jurisdiction as provided for by Republic Act 7227, as amended, and Executive Order
19 No. 675, series of 2007; accredited people's organizations (POs); nongovernment
20 organizations (NGOs), and the private sector operating in Bataan.

21 The implementation of the MBDA's plans, programs and projects shall be
22 undertaken by the LGUs, the concerned national agencies, the POs, NGOs, and the
23 private sector and MBDA itself, as necessary and where appropriate, to meet the
24 objectives of this Act. For this purpose, the MBDA may enter into contracts approved
25 by the Council with such entities for the achievement of such purposes.

26 Sec. 15. *The Metro Bataan Development Master Plan* - The MBDA shall prepare
27 a master plan to be approved by the Council that shall serve as the framework for the
28 local development plans of the component LGUs. For this purpose, the council, through
29 the MBDA, may require its ex-officio non-voting members as well as other national
30 government agencies and instrumentalities to submit development plans and projects
31 to be implemented within its jurisdiction.

32 The master plan shall contain, but will not be limited to, the following
33 components: areas of industrial growth, transportation, infrastructure development,

1 tourism site development plan, planned energy facility development and environmental
2 management and sustainability.

3 Sec. 16. *Metro Bataan Coast Guard Station* - There is hereby established a
4 Metro Bataan Coast Guard Station, dedicated to implement the objectives or policies of
5 the MBDA for the security of the territorial waters and areas covered by Metro Bataan
6 but shall still be under the administrative control and operational supervision of the
7 Philippine Coast Guard (PCG). The Metro Bataan Coast Guard Station shall assume
8 and perform the following functions:

9 (a) Ensure that peace, order and safety within the immediate territorial waters of
10 Metro Bataan are maintained at all times;

11 (b) Coordinate with the SBMA, the AFAB, the CDC, the SCAD, member LGUs
12 of the MBDA, the Regional Police Office, and other relevant agencies in
13 fulfilling its mandate within the territorial jurisdiction of the MBDA.

14 The Metro Bataan Coast Guard Station shall be adequately staffed with the
15 necessary personnel and provided with the necessary equipment in the fulfillment of its
16 mandate as determined by the PCG and the Council.

17 The Philippine Coast Guard shall utilize its air, land, and sea assets within Metro
18 Bataan's territorial jurisdiction. The PCG may establish or construct auxiliary facilities
19 to support the deployment, operation, and maintenance of such assets.

20 Sec. 17. *Sources of Funds and Operating Budget of the MBDA*. – The amount
21 necessary for the operating budget of MBDA shall be included in the annual General
22 Appropriations Act that will ensure adequate funding for Personnel Services (PS) which
23 entails the creation and maintenance of adequate plantilla positions towards attracting,
24 employing, and retaining skilled professionals and highly competent personnel;
25 Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE) for sustaining daily operations
26 and essential services, and Capital Outlay (CO) to acquire infrastructure, state of the
27 art equipment and facilities necessary for long-term development projects and the
28 fulfillment of its mandate.

29 The MBDA is likewise empowered to impose administrative fees and charges on
30 such rates and amounts approved by the Council for various services rendered.

31 The MBDA, through the Council, and subject to the approval of the LGUs and
32 their respective *sanggunians*, may call on its member city and municipalities to

1 contribute such amount as may later on be determined for its operation and the
2 implementation of projects.

3 The MBDA may accept donations and grants from foreign and local sources. In
4 case of grants, in cash or kind, from governments of foreign countries or their agencies
5 and instrumentalities, or from multilateral institutions or organizations, acceptance
6 thereof shall be subject to the prior clearance and approval by the President of the
7 Philippines or the authorized representative based on the recommendation of the
8 Secretary of Finance. On the other hand, other donations, in cash or in kind, from
9 foreign government shall require prior clearance and approval by the President, or the
10 authorized representative based on the recommendation of the Secretary of Foreign
11 Affairs.

12 The MBDA may, subject to the approval of the Department of Finance (DOF),
13 the *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas* (BSP), the National Economic and Development
14 Authority (NEDA), and the Council, subject to the approval of the Monetary Board of
15 the BSP, obtain financing support from local and foreign sources.

16 Sec. 18. *Transparency Clause.* – Pursuant to Executive Order No. 2, s. 2016,
17 the public shall have access to information, official records, documents and papers
18 pertaining to official acts, transactions or decisions of the Council and the MBDA, as
19 well as to research data used by the Council and the MBDA as basis for policy
20 development. The Council and the MBDA shall preserve and make readily accessible
21 all such information, official records, documents, and papers. Provided however, that
22 such access to information shall be subject to the request procedures and exceptions
23 under E.O No. 2 and other related laws or guidelines. As provided by E.O. No. 2, failure
24 to do so shall be a ground for the imposition of administrative and disciplinary sanctions
25 on the erring officers or employees, without prejudice to prosecution for violation of
26 other laws.

27 Sec. 19. *Non-Diminution Clause.* – The Council cannot modify, overrule or
28 disregard resolutions and ordinances passed by the *Sangguniang Barangay*,
29 *Sangguniang Bayan*, *Sangguniang Panlungsod* and *Sanggunian Panlalawigan*, within
30 the Province of Bataan and executive orders of its local chief executives.

31 In discharging its functions and performing its services under Sections 5 and 6
32 herein, the MBDA shall, in no case, diminish or undermine the autonomy of the LGUs,
33 nor diminish or undermine the regulatory functions of national government agencies.
34 The member LGUs shall continue to have control and be responsible for their respective

1 local projects and services. No MBDA service shall be implemented in a locality unless
2 the LGU concerned concurs thereto.

3 Sec. 20. *Amicable Resolution Clause.* – In the formulation and implementation
4 of development initiatives, programs and projects, the MBDA shall solicit and consider
5 the inputs of relevant national government agencies. In like manner, concerned national
6 government agencies shall consult the MBDA and its member LGUs before the
7 implementation of development projects funded by the national government. Potential
8 or actual conflicts or disputes arising from policy matters or overlap in initiatives,
9 programs and projects shall be amicably resolved to the mutual satisfaction of all
10 concerned. Otherwise, the dispute shall be resolved in favor of local autonomy.

11 Potential or actual conflicts in the policies, plans, initiatives or program implementation
12 of the MBDC or MBDA shall be resolved in favor of the SBMA, the AFAB, the CDC, or
13 the SCAD, as the case may be, in areas within their respective operational jurisdictions.

14 Sec. 21. *Internal Audit.* – Notwithstanding the provisions of Republic Act No.
15 4177, amending certain sections of Republic Act No. 3456, otherwise known as the
16 “Internal Auditing Act of 1962”, the Council shall appoint the members of the
17 independent internal audit service of the MBDA.

18 SEC. 22. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - Within ninety (90) days from
19 the approval of this Act, the Council shall promulgate and may thereafter update the
20 necessary rules and regulations for the implementation of this Act.

21 Sec. 23. *Separability Clause.* – In case any part or provision of this Act is held
22 unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions thereof which are not affected shall
23 continue to remain in full force and effect.

24 Sec. 24. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, executive orders, rules and regulations or
25 parts thereof inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act are hereby
26 repealed or modified accordingly.

27 Sec. 25. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
28 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

29
30 *Approved,*
31