

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3984



Introduced by: **REP. SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The institutionalization of a Local Economic Development and Investment Promotions Officer (LEDIPO) in every local government unit (LGU) is crucial for a number of reasons. This position is vital for strategic economic growth, streamlining investment processes, and enhancing the competitiveness of the LGU. The LEDIPO acts as a dedicated point person, ensuring that economic development isn't just an afterthought but a central and continuous focus of local governance.

Without a dedicated LEDIPO, an LGU's economic initiatives may be fragmented and lack a cohesive strategy. The LEDIPO is responsible for creating and executing a long-term economic development plan that identifies key industries, analyzes market trends, and addresses local challenges. They coordinate with various departments—such as planning, engineering, and tourism—to ensure that all efforts are aligned toward the same economic goals. This prevents a piecemeal approach and ensures a unified, strategic direction for the LGU's economy.

Investors often face bureaucratic hurdles and have to navigate multiple offices and permits. The LEDIPO serves as a one-stop shop for potential investors, guiding them through the entire process, from initial inquiry to business registration and operation. This single point of contact significantly reduces red tape and makes the LGU more attractive to both local and foreign investors. By actively promoting the LGU's assets—like its workforce, resources, and strategic location—the LEDIPO also plays a key role in marketing the area as a desirable investment destination.

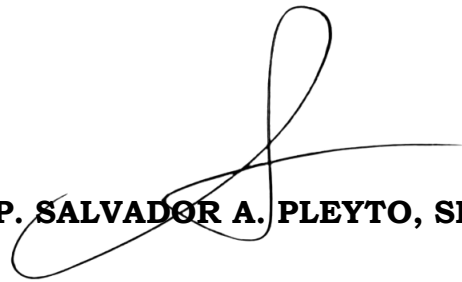
A primary function of the LEDIPO is to facilitate investments that lead to job creation. By attracting new businesses and supporting existing ones, they directly contribute to improving the employment rate and the overall economic well-being of the community. The officer also works to empower local entrepreneurs and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)

through capacity-building programs, market linkages, and access to funding, which are critical for sustainable economic growth and poverty reduction.

A robust local economy translates directly into higher tax revenues for the LGU. The LEDIPO's work in attracting and retaining businesses leads to an increase in business taxes, real property taxes, and other local fees. This additional revenue can then be used to fund essential public services and infrastructure projects, creating a virtuous cycle where economic growth fuels better services, which in turn attract more businesses and residents.

The LEDIPO is also crucial for building economic resilience. In the face of economic downturns, natural disasters, or other crises, they are the first line of defense, responsible for developing contingency plans, providing support to affected businesses, and leading recovery efforts. Their ongoing monitoring of the local economy allows them to identify potential risks and vulnerabilities, enabling the LGU to proactively prepare for and mitigate future shocks.

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



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**AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE POSITION OF ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT PROMOTIONS OFFICER IN ALL
LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS, DEFINING ITS FUNCTIONS AND POWERS,
PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Local Economic Development and Investment Promotions Officer Act of 2025."

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is the declared policy of the State to promote sustainable and inclusive economic growth by empowering local government units (LGUs) to attract and facilitate investments. To this end, the State shall provide LGUs with a dedicated and competent workforce capable of formulating and implementing strategic economic and investment promotion plans. The creation of a permanent and institutionalized position for a Local Economic Development and Investment Promotions Officer (LEDIPO) shall be a key step in professionalizing local economic development efforts, ensuring continuity and effectiveness regardless of changes in local administration.

SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* - For the purpose of this Act, the following terms shall mean:

- a) Local Government Unit (LGU) - refers to a province, city, municipality, or barangay.
- b) Local Economic Development and Investment Promotions Officer (EIPO) - refers to the official who shall be responsible for the formulation, implementation, and coordination of local economic and investment promotion programs and activities.
- c) Investment Promotion - refers to all activities, including but not

limited to, marketing, networking, and business facilitation, aimed at attracting, retaining, and expanding investments within the LGU.

- d) Local Economic Development - refers to the process by which public, business, and non-governmental sector partners work collectively to create better conditions for economic growth and employment generation within the LGU.

SEC. 4. *Creation of the Position.* - There is hereby created a mandatory position of Local Economic Development and Investment Promotions Officer (LEDIPO) in all provinces, cities, and municipalities. The LEDIPO shall hold the rank of a Department Head. LGUs may create a separate office for economic and investment promotion or integrate the LEDIPO into an existing department, such as the Planning and Development Office, as deemed appropriate by the local chief executive.

SEC. 5. *Powers and Functions.* - The LEDIPO shall have the following powers and functions:

- a) To lead in the formulation and implementation of a comprehensive LGU Economic and Investment Promotions Plan.
- b) To serve as the primary liaison and point of contact for local and foreign investors.
- c) To facilitate business registration, permitting, and other regulatory processes to create a business-friendly environment.
- d) To develop and maintain an investment database, including a list of priority sectors, potential investment sites, and available incentives.
- e) To organize and participate in investment missions, trade fairs, and other promotional activities.
- f) To collaborate with national government agencies, such as the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Board of Investments (BOI), and other relevant agencies, to align local efforts with national policies.
- g) To provide regular reports to the local chief executive and the local legislative council on the state of the local economy and investment inflows.
- h) To identify and recommend local ordinances or resolutions that will support and enhance the investment climate.
- i) To perform such other functions as may be assigned by the local chief executive to further the LGU's economic and investment goals.

SEC. 6. *Qualifications and Appointment.* - The LEDIPO must be a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of the LGU, of good moral character, a holder of a bachelor's degree preferably in economics, business administration, public administration, or a related field, and with at least three (3) years of relevant experience in economic development, business management, or investment promotion. The LEDIPO shall be appointed by the local chief executive, subject to civil service laws, rules, and regulations.

SEC. 7. *Appropriations.* - The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the general appropriations of the LGUs. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued operation of the office and the position shall be included in the annual budget of the LGU concerned.

SEC. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), in coordination with the DTI and the Department of Economy, Planning and Development Authority (DEPDev), shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act within sixty (60) days from its effectivity.

SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act or its application is held invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, and ordinances, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 11. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,