

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

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
*First Regular Session*

**HOUSE BILL NO. 4018**



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

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**AN ACT**  
**PROVIDING FOR THE EQUITABLE REGIONAL SHARE FROM THE**  
**NATIONAL BUDGET TO ENSURE ITS RESPONSIVENESS FROM**  
**GRASSROOTS REALITIES TO ACCELERATE SOCIO-ECONOMIC**  
**DEVELOPMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

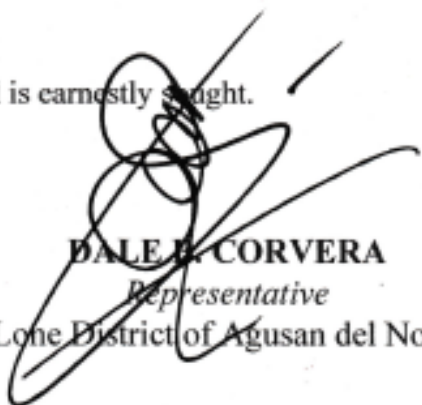
**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Regional Development Councils (RDC) are organized in each region of the country with the goal of translating national economic goals to more specific regional objectives. Aside from formulating the regional development plan that integrated the approved development plans of provinces, highly-urbanized cities and independent component cities as mandated by the Local Government Code of 1991, RDCs are also tasked to evaluate budget proposals of regional line agencies to ensure alignment with the regional development plan. Identified priority programs, projects and activities will then be endorsed by the RDCs to the respective Agency Central Offices to be included in the budget proposal to be submitted to the Department of Budget and Management.

However, despite the rigorous process being undertaken by the RDCs to review and endorse priority programs, projects and activities, there exists no comprehensive tracking of these items including an information on whether or not what portion of such endorsed lists get included in the National Expenditure Program (NEP). Individual regional monitoring and reporting would show that less than 30% of RDC-endorsed programs, projects and activities gets included in the NEP although a more definitive nationwide data cannot be established due to absence of comprehensive tracking of these proposals.

The importance of RDCs in ensuring a responsive and transparent budget process cannot be over-emphasized. Under the reorganized structure of the RDC under Executive Order No. 82, issued on January 28, 2025, RDCs are not only composed of Local Chief Executives and regional heads of National Government Agencies. It also includes Private Sector Representatives (PSRs) to form part of 25% of the RDC membership who will come from various sectors of the society such as labor, agriculture, infrastructure, energy, among others. Further, representatives from civil society organizations may also be invited either as PSRs or special non-voting members to contribute in the performance of the functions of the RDCs.

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



**DALE D. 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.** *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared a policy of the State to ensure the development of all regions in the country through the provision of equitable share from the National Budget.

**SEC. 2.** *Regional Share from the National Budget.* – To ensure that the budget allocation of each region is responsive to its actual requirements and priorities, not less than 50% of the budget to be proposed by the Executive Branch shall come from the priority programs, projects and activities endorsed by the respective Regional Development Councils (RDCs).

The equitable allocation of each region shall consider socio-economic factors such as poverty incidence, population growth, employment generation, economic development, contribution to GDP, , among others.

**SEC. 3.** *Strengthened Role of RDCs.* – For this purpose, the existing RDCs shall strengthen its role in reviewing programs, projects and activities to be endorsed to Agency Central Offices prior to submission to the Department of Budget and Management (DBM).

Participation and representation of civil society organizations and non-government organizations in the deliberation of priority programs, projects and activities at the regional level shall likewise be strengthened.

**SEC. 4.** *Monitoring and Reporting.* – The pertinent information on the amount of programs, projects and activities proposed by the respective RDCs as well as the amounts included in the National Expenditure Program shall be included by the DBM in the Budget of Expenditures and Sources of Financing to ensure compliance with this Act.

The Department of the Economy, Planning and Development (DEPDev) shall track the status of RDC-endorsed projects, analyze its effect on regional and national economic development, and propose measures to further strengthen budget and planning linkage at the regional level.

**SEC. 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act the DBM and the DEPDev shall, in consultation with other relevant government agencies, formulate the rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

**SEC. 6. *Separability Clause.*** – If, for any reason, any section, clause or term of this Act is held to be illegal, invalid, or unconstitutional, such parts not affected by such declaration shall remain in full force and effect.

**SEC. 7. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, presidential decrees, issuances, executive orders, letters of instruction, rules, and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 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,*