

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 5928



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**Introduced by Rep. Wilfrido Mark M. Enverga**

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#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

It is the policy of the State to promote industrialization and full employment based on sound agricultural development and agrarian reform, through industries that make full and efficient use of human and natural resources, and which are competitive in both domestic and foreign markets. In the pursuit of these goals, all sectors of the economy and all regions of the country shall be given optimum opportunity to develop.

Northern Quezon offers rich marine and land resources. Lamon Bay, a large body of water embracing the five island-municipalities in the first district of Quezon, is a vast fishing ground providing substantial marine food products to the Southern Tagalog Region and Metro Manila. The four coastal towns—General Nakar, Infanta, Real, and Mauban—cover a large area of forest lands rich in wild flora and fauna. This area also serves as a watershed that supplies water to existing and proposed hydroelectric power plants, as well as for domestic use and irrigation.

Aside from its rich natural resources, Northern Quezon's strategic location makes it ideal for harbor and port development. This key geographic position underscores its potential to become a major transshipment point and a center of trade in the northern Pacific Rim. Furthermore, with the Infanta-Marikina Road, imported and local products can easily reach Metro Manila, allowing the region to play a significant role in the country's trade and economic activities.

This bill provides for the creation of Northern Quezon Development Authority (NQDA) which will pave the way for the gradual development of the long neglected eastern coastal towns of the first congressional district of Quezon by creating an institutional machinery to ensure an effective ecological and economic management to properly utilize its resources and take advantage of its strategic location.

Considering the foregoing, the immediate passage of this measure in earnestly sought.

  
**WILFRIDO MARK M. ENVERGA**  
1<sup>st</sup> District, Quezon

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1 **AN ACT CREATING THE NORTHERN QUEZON DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY IN**  
2 **THE PROVINCE OF QUEZON AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**  
3  
4

5 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines*  
6 *in Congress assembled:*  
7  
8

9 **Section 1. Title** - This Act shall be known as the "Northern Quezon Development  
10 Authority Act."  
11

12 **Sec. 2. Creation of Northern Quezon Development Authority** – The Northern  
13 Quezon Development Authority (NQDA), hereinafter referred to as the "Authority" is  
14 hereby created which shall promote, coordinate, and facilitate the active and  
15 extensive participation of all sectors to effect the socio-economic development of the  
16 northern area in the first congressional district of Quezon province.  
17

18 **Sec. 3. Coverage** - The Authority shall cover all the municipalities of Mauban,  
19 Infanta, Real, General Nakar, Polillo, Burdeos, Panukulan, Patnanungan and  
20 Jomalig, Province of Quezon.  
21

22 **Sec. 4. Principal Office and Term** - The Authority shall have its main office at Real,  
23 Quezon. It may establish Area Management Offices (AMOS) as it may deem  
24 necessary to achieve the objectives of this Act. The Authority shall have a term of  
25 fifty (50) years from the effectivity of this Act and renewable for the same period  
26 unless otherwise provided by law.  
27

28 **SEC. 6. Powers and Functions of Authority** - The Authority shall have the  
29 following powers and functions:  
30

- 31 a. Formulate an integrated development framework for the area;
- 32 b. Integrate, prioritize and program area-wide specific programs, activities  
33 and projects with province-wide impact;
- 34 c. Promote and facilitate investments in any field which would enhance the  
35 socio-economic development of the area and uplift the living standards of  
36 the people and their socio-political activities in close coordination with  
37 agencies primarily mandated to undertake such function;
- 38 d. Explore sources for financing priority programs, projects and activities;

- 39 e. Coordinate and facilitate the extension of necessary planning  
40 management and technical assistance to prospective and existing  
41 investors, complementary and in support of agencies primarily mandated  
42 to execute such functions;
- 43 f. Establish comprehensive and integrated databases on necessary for  
44 planning and decision-making;
- 45 g. Monitor, evaluate and formulate recommendations on the implementation  
46 of area wide and/or specific inter-agency development programs, activities  
47 and projects;
- 48 h. Act as the implementing agency, whenever necessary, for the  
49 accomplishment of province and region-wide programs and projects,  
50 including Official Development Assistance (ODA) projects, subject to such  
51 limitations prescribed by existing laws, rules, and regulations;
- 52 i. Receive and administer donations, contributions, grants, bequest or gifts in  
53 cash or in kind from foreign governments, international agencies, private  
54 entities, and other sources, including Official Development Assistance  
55 (ODA) agencies, for purposes that would contribute to the development of  
56 Northern Quezon , subject to existing laws, rules and regulations;
- 57 j. To sue and be sued, enter into contracts, acquire, purchase, hold, lease,  
58 transfer, and dispose of property of any kind or nature necessary to carry  
59 out the purposes of this Act;
- 60 k. Discharge other functions which may be deemed necessary or as may be  
61 provided by law;
- 62 l. Submit to the President and both Houses of Congress annual reports on  
63 its accomplishments and activities;
- 64 m. Receive and administer donations, contributions, grants, bequest or gifts in  
65 cash or in kind from foreign governments, international agencies, private  
66 entities, and other sources, including Official Development Assistance  
67 (ODA) agencies, for purposes that would contribute to the development of  
68 the area, subject to existing laws, rules and regulations;
- 69 n. To sue and be sued, enter into contracts, acquire, purchase, hold, lease,  
70 transfer, and dispose of property of any kind or nature necessary to carry  
71 out the purposes of this Act; and
- 72 o. Discharge other functions which may be deemed necessary or as may be  
73 provided by law.

74  
75 **Sec. 6. Board of Directors** – The affairs and business of the Authority shall be  
76 directed and its properties managed and preserved by a Board of Directors to be  
77 composed of the Regional Director of the National Economic Development Authority  
78 (NEDA) as the *ex-officio* Chairman, and the following as Members,

- 79  
80 1. The Administrator of the Authority;
- 81 2. Regional Director of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) – *ex-*  
82 *officio* Member;
- 83 3. Regional Director of the Department of the Public Works and Highways  
84 (DPWH) – *ex-officio* Member;
- 85 4. Regional Director of the Department of Tourism (DOT) – *ex-officio*  
86 Member;
- 87 5. Regional Director of Department of Agriculture (DA) – *ex-officio* Member;

- 88 6. Regional Director of Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
89 (DENR) – *ex-officio* Member;  
90 7. Administrator of National Electrification Administration (NEA) – *ex-officio*  
91 Member;  
92 8. General Manager of Philippine Port Authority- *ex-officio* Member;  
93 9. Representative, First District of Quezon – *ex-officio* Member;  
94 10. Provincial Governor, Quezon Province – *ex-officio* Member;  
95 11. Municipal Mayors of Municipalities of Mauban, Infanta, Real, General  
96 Nakar, Polillo, Burdeos, Panukulan, Patnanungan, and Jomalig, Quezon;  
97 – as *ex-officio* Members;  
98 12. Three (3) other members representing the private sector to be appointed  
99 by the President, who shall serve for a term of five (5) years unless sooner  
100 removed for cause: Provided, That the person appointed shall be of good  
101 moral character, of unquestionable integrity, of known probity and  
102 patriotism, and with experience and expertise in management, business,  
103 finance and the professions, and preferably coming from the First District  
104 of Quezon;  
105 13. Three (3) Representatives from Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) in  
106 the area with proven track record in advocacy and program management  
107 in agriculture, fisheries, environmental protection, marine resources, rural  
108 development and trade and industries.  
109

110 The *ex-officio* members of the Board may designate their representatives to the  
111 Authority. The decisions of the Board shall be made by a vote of the majority of all its  
112 members. The Chairman of the Board shall preside over meetings of the Board of  
113 Directors.  
114

115 **Sec. 7. Board Meetings** – The Board of Directors shall meet preferably at its  
116 principal office, at least once a month, and as frequently as necessary to discharge  
117 its duties and responsibilities. The Board shall be convened by the Chairman or upon  
118 written request signed by majority of the members.  
119

120 **Sec. 8 Powers and Functions of the Board** – The Board of Directors of the  
121 Authority shall have the following powers and functions and duties:  
122

- 123 1. Provide direction and guidance for the Authority's work and thrusts;  
124 2. Ensure that the goals and policies of the Authority are  
125 consistent with the overall national development goals  
126 and objectives;  
127 3. Ensure that the programs of the Authority are consistent with regional and  
128 local development plans, program and projects, and vice versa for  
129 purposes of harmonization;  
130 4. Explore sources for financing of priority plans, programs,  
131 projects and activities;  
132 5. Create committees/task forces as may be deemed necessary in the  
133 accomplishments of its duties and functions;  
134 6. Determine schedules; establish voting procedures, criteria for the  
135 constitution of a quorum, and other des and regulations in the conduct of  
136 Board meetings;

- 137 7. To prepare and approve a ten (10) year and a five (5) year Development  
138 plan, and review and expedite the execution of these plans when  
139 necessary;
- 140 8. To appoint and discipline any employee, after according them due process  
141 in accordance with existing laws, together with the rules and regulations of  
142 the Civil Service Commission;
- 143 9. To elect from among the members of the Board of Directors the following  
144 Executive officers: a. President/Chairman of the Board; b. Vice- Pres/Vice-  
145 Chairman of the Board; c. Secretary. *Provided That*, the Board shall  
146 likewise have the corresponding power to replace any the board or for acts  
147 prejudicial to the objectives of the Authority;
- 148 10. To screen and approve the appointment of the following: General  
149 Manager, Assistant General Manager, and other key officials of the  
150 Authority;
- 151 11. To request a periodic or special audit of all its funds and properties from  
152 the Commission on Audits when the need arises;
- 153 12. To adopt a seal and flag which is judicial noticed, determine the exact  
154 location of its office preferably near its area of operation and adopt its own  
155 rules and procedure in meetings and general  
156 assemblies in accordance with the standards of transparency and  
157 democratic parliamentary procedures;
- 158 13. To recommend to Congress, the NEDA and other government agencies  
159 the passage of laws and other rules and regulation in order to carry out  
160 the objectives of the Authority;
- 161 14. To exercise such powers and perform such functions which are proper and  
162 necessary to implement the objectives of the Authority and to carry out  
163 provisions of this act.  
164

165 **Sec. 9. Terms of Office of the General Manager** – The General Manager of the  
166 Authority shall serve for a fixed term of four (4) years, unless removed from office by  
167 a vote of two-thirds of the Board of Directors.  
168

169 **Sec. 10. Residence and Prohibition** – The General Manager shall, if practicable,  
170 establish his residence within the first congressional district of Quezon. He/She shall  
171 not, during his/her tenure of office, engage in any business, profession, or calling  
172 other than those connected with the performance of his/her official duties as the  
173 General Manager of the Authority.  
174

175 **Sec. 11. Power and Duties of the General Manager** – The General Manager shall  
176 have the following powers and functions:  
177

- 178 a. Submit, for the consideration of the Board, the policies and measures  
179 which he believes to be necessary to carry out the purposes and  
180 provisions of this Act;
- 181 b. Execute and administer the policies, plans, programs and projects  
182 approved by the Board;
- 183 c. Direct and supervise the operations and internal administration of the  
184 Authority. The General Manager may delegate some of his administration  
185 responsibilities to other officers of the Authority subject to the rules and  
186 regulations of the Board;

- 187 d. Prepare the annual budget of the Authority for consideration of the Board,  
188 Submit, within thirty (30) days after the close of each fiscal year an annual  
189 report to the Board and such other reports as may be required; and  
190 e. Exercise such other powers as may be vested in him by the Board.

191

192 **Sec. 12. Appropriations** - The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this  
193 Act shall be included in the General Appropriation Act of the year following its  
194 enactment into law and thereafter.

195

196 **Sec. 13. Separability Clause** - If any clause, sentence, paragraph or part of this Act  
197 shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, such judgment shall not affect,  
198 invalidate or impair any other part of this Act.

199

200 **Sec. 14. Repealing Clause** - All laws, decrees, executive orders, memorandum  
201 orders, and other administrative issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent  
202 with the provisions of this Act, are hereby modified, superseded or repealed  
203 accordingly.

204

205 **Sec. 15. Effectivity** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its  
206 publication in the Official Gazette or in any major newspaper of general circulation in  
207 the Philippines.

*Approved,*