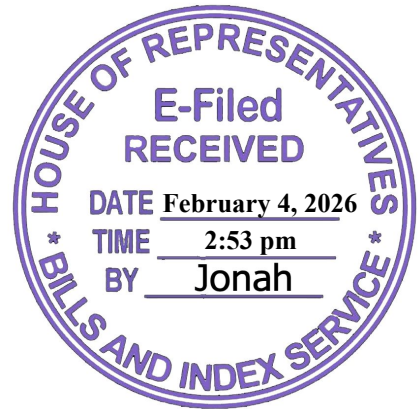


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7618



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

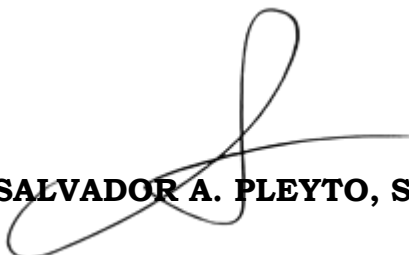
EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines continues to face challenges regarding sustainable development and poverty alleviation, both of which are intrinsically linked to population management. While the Local Government Code of 1991 (Republic Act No. 7160) provides for the appointment of various local officials, the position of Population Officer is currently classified as optional.

This "optional" status has led to inconsistent implementation of population and development programs across various Local Government Units (LGUs). Without a dedicated officer, many municipalities and provinces lack the technical expertise to integrate population dynamics into their socio-economic planning.

By making the appointment of a Population Officer mandatory, this bill ensures that every province, city, and municipality has a focal person responsible for implementing reproductive health and family planning programs, as well as the analysis of demographic data for better urban planning.

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


SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7618

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

AN ACT MANDATING THE APPOINTMENT OF POPULATION OFFICERS IN ALL PROVINCES, CITIES, AND MUNICIPALITIES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 488 (A) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991," AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Section 488 (a) of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991," is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 488. Qualifications, Powers and Duties. —

(a) No person shall be appointed population officer unless he is a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of the local government unit concerned, of good moral character, a holder of a college degree with specialized training in population development from a recognized college or university, and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent. He must have experience in the implementation of programs on population development or responsible family planning for at least five (5) years in the case of the provincial or city population officer, and three (3) years in the case of the municipal population officer.

THE APPOINTMENT OF A POPULATION OFFICER SHALL BE MANDATORY FOR THE PROVINCIAL, CITY, AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS."

SEC. 2. *Funding.* — The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual budget of the respective local government units. For the initial year of implementation, the cost may be sourced from any available local funds.

SEC. 3. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 4. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,