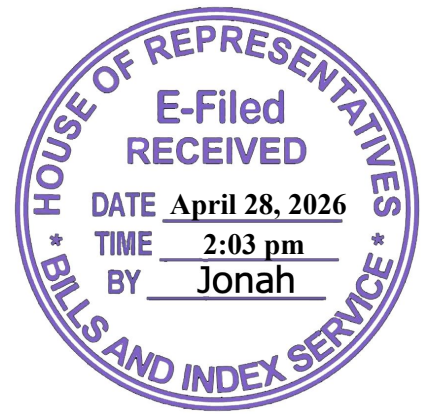


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **8973**



Introduced by **Representative ERIC G. YAP**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to mandate the appointment of an Environment and Natural Resources Officer (ENRO) in every province, city, and municipality across the country. It further amends Section 484 (a) of Republic Act No. 7160, or the *“Local Government Code of 1991”*, as amended.

Currently, the appointment of ENROs in local government units (LGUs) remains optional. This has resulted in several LGUs encountering problems with the coordination and implementation of programs on environmental protection, natural resource management, solid waste management, and climate change adaptation and mitigation.

This proposed measure recognizes that LGUs serve as the frontliners in addressing environmental degradation and biodiversity loss. It ensures that each LGU establishes a competent focal person to develop policies, enforce environmental laws, coordinate with national government agencies, and implement science-based and community-responsive interventions.

The mandatory appointment of an ENRO strengthens local environmental governance and enhances accountability in the stewardship of the environment and the country’s natural resources. It also aligns with the government’s efforts to ensure environmental protection and disaster resilience.

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


HON. ERIC G. YAP

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **8973**

Introduced by **Representative ERIC G. YAP**

AN ACT
MAKING THE APPOINTMENT OF AN ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICER MANDATORY IN ALL PROVINCES, CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES, FURTHER AMENDING SECTION 484 (A) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991", AS AMENDED

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

Section 1. Section 484 (a) of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the "*Local Government Code of 1991*", as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 484. Qualifications, Powers and Duties. - (a) xxx

*"The appointment of the environment and natural resources officer is [optional] **MANDATORY** for provincial, city, and municipal governments."*

SEC. 2. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,