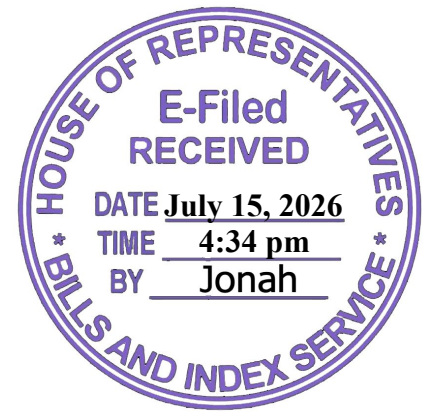


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 10096



Introduced by Representative Timothy Joseph Cayton

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Land Transportation Office (LTO) is mandated to register motor vehicles, issue and renew driver's licenses, and enforce land transportation laws throughout the country. The accessibility of these services is a basic expectation of local government units and their constituents, particularly in provinces where distances between municipalities are considerable and public transportation is limited.

At present, the entire Province of Nueva Vizcaya, comprising fifteen (15) municipalities, is served by a single LTO District Office located at the Capitol Compound, Municipality of Bayombong. Residents of the southern municipalities of the province — particularly Bambang, Aritao, Kasibu, Kayapa, Dupax Del Norte, Dupax Del Sur, and Sta. Fe — must travel a considerable distance, averaging approximately twenty-nine (29) kilometers from Aritao alone, just to transact with the LTO. This does not yet account for residents from farther upland municipalities such as Kayapa, who must traverse mountainous terrain to reach Bayombong.

The Municipality of Aritao is a second-class municipality with twenty-two (22) barangays and a population of forty-five thousand (45,000) as of the 2024 Census, making it one of the most populous municipalities in the southern half of the province. It sits along the Maharlika Highway (AH26) and serves as the eastern terminus of the Benguet–Nueva Vizcaya Road connecting Nueva Vizcaya to Baguio City, making it a natural transport and trade hub for the neighboring municipalities of Kayapa, Santa Fe, Dupax del Sur, and Bambang, as well as the boundary municipality of Carranglan in the neighboring province of Nueva Ecija.

The volume of vehicle registration, driver's license applications and renewals, and other LTO transactions in this part of the province has continued to grow alongside the area's population and economic activity, particularly in agriculture and trade along the Maharlika Highway corridor. The

absence of a local LTO facility compels residents to shoulder additional transportation costs and lost productive time, and contributes to congestion at the Bayombong District Office. This inconvenience also creates conditions that make residents vulnerable to fixers and unauthorized transaction facilitators.

This bill seeks to establish an LTO Extension Office in the Municipality of Aritao, Province of Nueva Vizcaya, to bring vehicle registration, licensing, and related transportation services closer to the residents of Aritao and its neighboring municipalities. This measure is consistent with the State's policy of ensuring accessible, efficient, and citizen-centered delivery of public services, particularly to communities located far from provincial and regional centers.

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


ATTY. TIMOTHY JOSEPH E. CAYTON, PhD.
Representative
Lone District of Nueva Vizcaya

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

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 10096

Introduced by Representative Timothy Joseph Cayton

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN EXTENSION OFFICE OF THE LAND
TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ARITAO,
PROVINCE OF NUEVA VIZCAYA, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. This Act shall be known as the “**LTO Aritao
Extension Office Act.**”

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. It is the policy of the State to promote a comprehensive, efficient, and dependable transportation system that is accessible to the public at reasonable cost, and to ensure the delivery of basic government services to the citizenry with the least inconvenience, particularly in geographically disadvantaged and underserved areas. Toward this end, the State shall bring the services of the Land Transportation Office closer to communities that are distant from existing district offices.

SEC. 3. Establishment. There is hereby established, under the supervision of the Department of Transportation (DOTr), through the Land Transportation Office (LTO), an extension office of the LTO in the Municipality of Aritao, Province of Nueva Vizcaya, hereinafter referred to as the “LTO Aritao Extension Office.”

SEC. 4. Coverage. The LTO Aritao Extension Office shall cater to the transportation-related transactions of the residents of all barangays of the Municipality of Aritao, and shall likewise serve the residents of the neighboring municipalities of Kayapa, Santa Fe, Dupax del Sur, and Bambang, and other nearby localities within the Province of Nueva Vizcaya, without prejudice to their option to transact with any other LTO office.

SEC. 5. Powers and Functions. The LTO Aritao Extension Office shall exercise such powers and perform such functions as may be delegated to it by the LTO Central Office and the LTO Regional Office having jurisdiction over the

Province of Nueva Vizcaya, including but not limited to the registration of motor vehicles, the issuance and renewal of driver's licenses and permits, and the collection of fees and charges incidental thereto, in accordance with Republic Act No. 4136, otherwise known as the "Land Transportation and Traffic Code," as amended, and other applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

SEC. 6. Personnel and Facilities. The LTO, in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), shall provide the LTO Aritao Extension Office with adequate personnel, equipment, and facilities necessary for its efficient operation, including the option to enter into a memorandum of agreement with the Local Government Unit of Aritao for the use of a suitable government-owned site or building, subject to existing government accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

SEC. 7. Implementation. The Secretary of Transportation shall immediately include in the Department's program the operationalization of the LTO Aritao Extension Office, and shall prioritize its establishment within one (1) year from the effectivity of this Act.

SEC. 8. Appropriations. The initial amount necessary for the establishment and operationalization of the LTO Aritao Extension Office shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the DOTr and the LTO. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for its continued operation and maintenance shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA).

SEC. 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations. Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation, through the LTO, shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 10. Separability Clause. If, for any reason, any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 11. Repealing Clause. All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, and other issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 12. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,