

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **2824**

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	
RECEIVED	
DATE:	10 AUG 2016
TIME:	2:42PM
BY:	<i>pel</i>
REGISTRATION UNIT BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE	

Introduced by Representative Estrellita B. Suansing

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Cooperatives are among the major pillars of the people empowerment movement. They have long been acknowledged and regarded as one of the fundamental sources of economic strength in our country.

Cooperatives play a significant role in our country's local economic development, especially in rural areas where the absence of large spending power does not attract private investment to harness local skills and resources that can uplift the local economy and living standards besides exporting produce to distant customer locations in cities.

The Philippine Constitution provides for the promotion of growth and viability of cooperatives as instruments of equity, social justice and economic development under the principles of subsidiarity and self-help. Under the said principles, the government recognizes that cooperatives are self-governing entities which shall initiate and regulate their own affairs to include education, training, research and other support services with the government, giving assistance when necessary.

Given the importance of cooperatives, it is, therefore, imperative to amend Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, to provide for a mandatory appointment of a cooperatives officer in every local government unit in the country.

This bill has been filed during the 16th Congress and subsequently approved on Third Reading. In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


ESTRELLITA B. SUANSING

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AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR THE MANDATORY APPOINTMENT OF A COOPERATIVES OFFICER IN EVERY LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 487, ARTICLE 17, TITLE V, BOOK 3 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991"

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 487, Article 17, Title V, Book 3 of Republic Act No. 7160,
2 otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991", is hereby amended to read as
3 follows:
4

5 "Article Seventeen. – The Cooperatives Officer

6 "SEC. 487. *Qualifications, Powers and Duties.* –

7 "(a) x x x

8 "The appointment of the cooperatives officer [is optional]
9 **SHALL BE MANDATORY** for the provincial, [and] city **AND**
10 **MUNICIPAL** governments.

11 **"THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT CONCERNED SHALL**
12 **HAVE THE OPTION TO CREATE THE POSITION OF A**
13 **COOPERATIVES OFFICER OR TO DESIGNATE AN**
14 **INCUMBENT OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE TO PERFORM THE**
15 **FUNCTIONS OF THE SAID POSITION.**

16 "(b) x x x."

17 SECTION 2. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
18 after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

19 Approved,