

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES  
First Regular Session  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

House Bill No. 1175

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE PIA S. CAYETANO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The governor, as the "father of the province," looks after the general welfare of the inhabitants of component cities and municipalities of the province.

As the chief executive of the provincial government, the governor's powers, duties and functions as stated in chapter 3, Article One, Section 465 of the Local Government Code (LGC) are similar to those exercised by the municipal or city mayor with minor exceptions, such as the authority to solemnize marriages. The LGC grants mayors the authority to solemnize marriages within their jurisdiction. No similar power, however, is granted to the governor.

As such, this bill seeks to grant the governor the same power to solemnize marriages to enable him/her to be of better service to his/her constituents.

*Pia S. Cayetano*  
PIA S. CAYETANO

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
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1175

House Bill No. \_\_\_\_\_

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Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE PIA S. CAYETANO

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AN ACT  
AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 209, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE  
FAMILY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Article 7 of the Family Code of the Philippines is hereby  
2 amended to read as follows:

3  
4 "Art. 7 Marriage may be solemnized by:

- 5  
6 (1) Any incumbent member of the judiciary within the  
7 court's jurisdiction;  
8  
9 (2) Any priest, rabbi, imam, or minister of any church or  
10 religious sect duly authorized by his church or religious  
11 sect and registered with the civil register general, acting  
12 within the limits of the written authority granted him by  
13 his church or religious sect and provided that at least  
14 one of the contracting parties belongs to the  
15 solemnizing officer's church or religious sect;  
16  
17 (3) Any ship captain or airplane chief only in the cases  
18 mentioned in Article 31;  
19  
20 (4) Any military commander of a unit to which a chaplain is  
21 assigned, in the absence of the latter, during a military  
22 operation, likewise only in the cases mentioned in  
23 Article 32; [or]  
24  
25 (5) Any consul-general, consul or vice-consul in the case  
26 provided in Article 10; **OR**  
27

1 (6) ANY PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR, WITHIN HIS/HER  
2 JURISDICTION.  
3  
4

5 **SEC. 2.** Article 8 of the Family Code of the Philippines is hereby amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 Art. 8. The marriage shall be solemnized publicly in the chambers of  
8 the judge or in open court, in the church, chapel or temple, or in the  
9 office of the consul-general, consul or vice-consul, **OR PROVINCIAL**  
10 **GOVERNOR** as the case may be, and not elsewhere, except in cases  
11 of marriages contracted at the point of death or in remote places in  
12 accordance with Art. 29 of this code, or where both of the parties  
13 request the solemnizing officer in writing in which case the marriage  
14 may be solemnized at a house or place designated by them in a sworn  
15 statement to that effect.  
16

17 **SEC. 3. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, issuances,  
18 rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this  
19 Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.  
20

21 **SEC. 4. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
22 complete publication in the official gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of  
23 general publication.

*Approved,*