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

Eighteenth Congress First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1058



Introduced by Honorable Dahlia A. Loyola

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Cooperatives play a significant role in the economy. The Cooperative Code of the Philippines describes them as "practical vehicle for promoting self-reliance and harnessing people power towards the attainment of economic development and social justice."

To properly conduct the cooperative's affairs, the Local Government Code provides for the appointment of a cooperatives officer. Such officer is charged with significant functions such as preserving communal forests, watershed, tree parks, mangroves, greenbelts and similar forest projects and commercial forest, providing extension services to beneficiaries of forest development projects and technical, financial and infrastructure assistance, managing and maintaining seed banks and produce seedlings for forests and tree parks, rendering assistance for natural resources-related conservation and utilization activities, promoting small-scale mining and utilization of mineral resources, among others.

However, the appointment of environment and natural resources officer remains optional as provided by the Code. The tendency then becomes that local government units opt to not make such appointment.

This bill recognizes that an environment and natural resources officer is indispensable in any local government unit that aims to enhance, promote and conserve natural resources. This bill proposes a mandatory appointment of

environment and natural resources officer to ensure availability and sustainability of natural resources.

In view thereof, support and approval of this measure is earnestly sought.

DR. DAHLIA A. LOYOLA

Representative Fifth District, Cavite

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AN ACT

MAKING THE APPOINTMENT OF COOPERATIVES OFFICER IN ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS MANDATORY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 487 of Republic Act No. 7160 as amended, 2 known as the Local Government Code of 1991, is hereby otherwise amended to read as follows: 3 4 5 "SEC. 487. Qualifications, Powers and Duties. - (a) xxx 6 The appointment of the cooperatives officer is [optional] 7 MANDATORY for the provincial, [and] city AND MUNICIPAL 8 governments. 9 XXX" If any provision of this Act shall be declared invalid 10 or unconstitutional, the remaining part or provisions not otherwise affected 11 12 shall remain in force. 13

SEC. 3. Any law, decreed, ordinance, administrative circulars not consistent with any provision of this Act is hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,