

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

**18<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS**  
 First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 621**



*Introduced by Representative* **CARLITO S. MARQUEZ**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to amend pertinent provisions of Republic 7160, otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991". This is a re-filed bill in the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress and was pending with the Committee on Local Government.

The Population Office in every local government unit is very vital in carrying out measures to guarantee the delivery of basic services and provisions of sufficient facilities appurtenant to the integration of the population development principles and in providing access to said services and facilities.

The said office is also given the indispensable assignment of mounting plans and strategies and upon approval thereof by the governor or mayor, as the case may be, implements the same, particularly those which have to do with the integration of population development principles and methods in programs and projects which the governor or mayor is empowered to implement. The office, likewise, assists the governor or mayor in the

implementation of the constitutional provisions relative to population development and the promotion of responsible parenthood and further establishes and maintains an updated data bank for program operations, development planning and an educational program to ensure the people's participation in and understanding of population development. By the same token, it implements appropriate training programs responsive to the cultural heritage of the inhabitants in the community.

We cannot downplay the vital function of population office to nation-building, however, when the Local Government Code of 1991 was enacted, it bestowed for the optional appointment of a population officer in the province, city or municipality. This manifest error should be corrected. We must consider that State should not just formulate the creation of Population Office for the provincial, city and municipal government as optional but rather be institutionalized as mandatory so that these offices would ensure that the tasks and visions for the provision of population development principles

Immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
**ENGR. CARLITO "Lito" S. MARQUEZ**



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**AN ACT**  
**INSTITUTIONALIZING THE MANDATORY ESTABLISHMENT OF**  
**A POPULATION OFFICE IN ALL PROVINCES, CITIES AND**  
**MUNICIPALITIES AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION**  
**488 (A) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS**  
**"THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991". AS AMENDED**

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

1        **Section 1.** *Title* – This Act shall be known and referred to as  
 2        the **"Mandatory Establishment of Provincial, City and**  
 3        **Municipal Population Office of 2019."**

4        **Section. 2.** There shall be a mandatory establishment of a  
 5        Population Office in every province, city and municipality with the  
 6        necessary budgetary appropriations covering the current operating  
 7        expenditures and capital outlays.

1       **Section. 3.** Section 488 of Republic Act. 7160, otherwise  
2 known as "*the Local Government Act of 1991*", as amended,  
3 particularly Title V (Appointive Local Officials Common To All  
4 Municipalities, Cities and Provinces) hereby amended further to be  
5 read as follows:

6       **"ARTICLE XVIII. The Population Officer**

7       **Section 488.** *Qualification, Powers and Duties.* – (a) No  
8 person shall be appointed population officer unless he is a citizen  
9 of the Philippines, a resident of the local government unit  
10 concerned, of good moral character, a holder of a college degree  
11 with specialized training in population development from a  
12 recognized college or university, and a first grade civil service  
13 eligible or its equivalent. He must have experience in the  
14 implementation of programs on population development or  
15 responsible parenthood for at least five (5) years in the case of the  
16 provincial or city population officer, and three (3) years in the case  
17 of the municipal population officer.

18       The appointment of a population officer shall be [optional]  
19 **MANDATORY** in the local government unit: Provided, however,  
20 That provinces, [*and*] cities **AND MUNICIPALITIES** which have  
21 existing population offices shall continue to maintain such offices.



(for a period of five (5) years from the date of effectivity of this code, after which said offices shall become optional).

XXX”

**Section 4. Separability Clause.** – If any part or section of this Act is declared unconstitutional, such declaration shall not affect the other parts or sections of this Act.

**Section 5. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, ordinances, circulars, rules and regulations inconsistent with any provisions of this Act shall be deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

**Section 6. Effectivity Clause.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation or in the Official Gazette.

*Approved.*