



Republic of the Philippines  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City, Metro Manila



**Eighteenth Congress**

**First Regular Session**

2851

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

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Introduced by

**HON. ANNA MARIE VILLARAZA-SUAREZ and  
HON. DAVID C. SUAREZ**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Republic Act No. 9520, also known as the 'Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008', declares that it is the policy of the State 'to foster the creation and growth of cooperatives as a practical vehicle for promoting self-reliance and harnessing people power towards the attainment of economic development and social justice.' Thus, local government units (LGUs) are mandated to provide cooperatives technical guidance, financial assistance and other services to enable them to develop into viable and responsive economic enterprises, especially in the countryside.

To accomplish these tasks, LGUs need to designate and/or appoint cooperative development officers in their respective units who shall be primarily responsible in implementing the cooperatives development program of the LGUs and for the discharge of the functions of a cooperative officer as provided for in Section 487 of Republic Act No. 7160, or the 'Local Government Code Of 1991'.

However, under RA 7160, the appointment or designation of a cooperatives officer in the city or provincial government is optional. While in the case of municipal governments, there is no provision in the law relating to the appointment or designation of a cooperatives officer. This current status of the law has resulted in LGUs with cooperatives officers who serve other functions or no cooperatives

officers at all, particularly in municipal governments. It reflects the lack of understanding if not poor appreciation of the potentials of cooperatives in the context of local development and governance.

This bill seeks to amend Section 443 of RA 7160 to include municipal cooperatives officers as among the mandatory officials of municipal governments. It also seeks to amend Sections 454 and 463 of the same law making the appointment of city and provincial cooperatives officers mandatory rather than optional.

Synergy between LGUs and cooperatives on local development undertakings has a stronger impact upon the community. Cooperatives are effective mechanisms in the delivery of goods and services to the people, especially in the promotion of livelihood activities, savings mobilization and livelihood generation.

For the foregoing reasons, the immediate consideration and approval of this bill is earnestly urged.



**HON. ANNA MARIE VILLARAZA-SUAREZ**  
**REPRESENTATIVE**  
**ALONA PARTYLIST**



**HON. DAVID C. SUAREZ**  
**REPRESENTATIVE**  
**2<sup>ND</sup> DISTRICT, QUEZON**



Republic of the Philippines  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**Eighteenth Congress**

**First Regular Session**

**House Bill No. 2851**

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Introduced by

**HON. ANNA MARIE VILLARAZA-SUAREZ and  
HON. DAVID C. SUAREZ**

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**AN ACT  
MAKING THE POSITION OF A COOPERATIVES OFFICER MANDATORY  
IN THE MUNICIPAL, CITY AND PROVINCIAL LEVELS, 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 of the Philippines  
in Congress assembled :*

**SECTION 1.** Section 443, Book III, Title Two, Chapter 2 of Republic Act No. 7160, is hereby amended to read as follows :

Section 443. *Officials of the Municipal Government.* -

- (a) There shall be in each municipality a municipal mayor, a municipal vice-mayor, sangguniang bayan members, a secretary to the sangguniang bayan, a municipal treasurer, a municipal assessor, a municipal accountant, a municipal budget officer, a municipal planning and development coordinator, a municipal engineer/building official, a municipal health officer ~~and~~, a municipal civil registrar~~[-]~~, **AND A MUNICIPAL COOPERATIVES OFFICER.**



(b) xxxxx

(c) xxxxx

(d) xxxxx

(e) xxxxx

**SECTION 2.** Section 454, Book III, Title Three, Chapter 2 of Republic Act No. 7160, is hereby amended to read as follows :

Section 454. *Officials of the City Government.*

(a) There shall be in each city a mayor, a vice-mayor, sangguniang panlungsod members, a secretary to the sangguniang panlungsod, a city treasurer, a city assessor, a city accountant, a city budget officer, a city planning and development coordinator, a city engineer, a city health officer, a city civil registrar, a city administrator, a city legal officer, a city veterinarian, a city social welfare and development officer, ~~[and]~~ a city general services officer~~[-]~~, **AND A CITY COOPERATIVES OFFICER.**

(b) In addition thereto, the city mayor may appoint a city architect, a city information officer, a city agriculturist, a city population officer, **AND** a city environment and natural resources officer~~[,].~~ ~~[and a city cooperatives officer.]~~

xxxxx

(c) xxxxx

(d) xxxxx

(e) xxxxx

**SECTION 3.** Section 463, Book III, Title Four, Chapter 2 of Republic Act No. 7160, is hereby amended to read as follows :

Section 463. *Officials of the Provincial Government.*

(a) There shall be in each province a governor, a vice-governor, members of the sangguniang panlalawigan, a secretary to the sangguniang panlalawigan, a provincial treasurer, a provincial assessor, a provincial accountant, a provincial engineer, a provincial budget officer, a provincial planning and development coordinator, a provincial legal officer, a provincial administrator, a provincial health officer, a provincial social

welfare and development officer, a provincial general services officer, a provincial agriculturist, ~~[and]~~ a provincial veterinarian~~[-]~~, **AND A PROVINCIAL COOPERATIVES OFFICER.**

- (b) In addition thereto, the governor may appoint a provincial population officer, a provincial natural resources and environment officer, ~~[a provincial cooperative officer,]~~ a provincial architect, and a provincial information officer.

xxxxx

(c) xxxxx

(d) xxxxx

(e) xxxxx

**SECTION 4.** Section 487 of Book III, Title Five, Article Seventeen of Republic Act No. 7160, is hereby amended to read as follows :

Section 487. *Qualifications, Powers and Duties.*

- (a) No person shall be appointed cooperative officer unless he is a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of the local government unit concerned, of good moral character, a holder of a college degree preferably in business administration with special training in cooperatives or any related course from a recognized college or university, and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent. He must have experience in cooperatives organizations and management of at least five (5) years in the case of provincial or city cooperatives officer, and three (3) years in the case of municipal cooperatives officer.

The appointment of the cooperatives officer is ~~[optional]~~ **MANDATORY** for the provincial , ~~[and]~~ city, **AND MUNICIPAL** governments.

(b) xxxxx

(1) xxxxx

(2) xxxxx

(3) xxxxx

xxxxx

(4) xxxxxxx

(5) xxxxxx

(c) xxxxx

**SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause*** - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

**SECTION 6. *Effectivity*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

**Approved.**