Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5333



INTRODUCED BY: HONORABLE MARISOL C. PANOTES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) is an agency under the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) created to protect the interests of Overseas Filipino Workers and their families, providing social security, cultural services and help with employment, remittances and legal matters.

However, there have been numerous cases of Overseas Filipino Workers from different provinces all over the archipelago, who encountered various problems in their jobsites abroad that require immediate attention from their respective families. Under this situation, the families have to look for ways and means to travel to Manila no matter how difficult for them, especially those who have no relatives or friends in Metro Manila that they felt that the government neglected or abandoned them.

The establishment of OWWA Center in every province is one way of bringing the government closer to the people as the families of the Overseas Filipino Workers in distress can easily attend to whatever requirements demanded by the situation as they do not have to travel to far distant place like Manila.

In view of the foregoing reasons, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

MARISOL C. PANOTES

Representative Second District, Camarines Norte

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HOUSE BILL NO.

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AN ACT

ESTABLISHING OVERSEAS WORKERS WELFARE ADMINISTRATION (OWWA) CENTER IN EVERY PROVINCE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

- **SECTION 1.** There shall be established an Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) Center in every province under the direct supervision and control of the Administrator of the OWWA national office.
- **SEC. 2.** The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) shall provide a suitable office space in every province for the OWWA Provincial Officer-In-Charge and his staff.
- **SEC. 3.** The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged against the annual appropriations of the OWWA.
- **SEC. 4.** All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.
- **SEC. 5.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,