



**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KAGAWARAN NG KAPALIGIRAN AT LIKAS YAMAN**



MEMORANDUM

FOR : **The Directors**
Legal Affairs Service
Policy and Planning Service
Climate Change Service

The Directors
Environmental Management Bureau
Land Management Bureau
Biodiversity Management Bureau
Forest Management Bureau
Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau

The Officer-In-Charge
Mines and Geosciences Bureau

All Regional Executive Directors

FROM : **The Director**
Legislative Liaison Office

SUBJECT : **INVITATION TO COMMITTEE HEARING ON THE DELIBERATION OF THE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (TWG) REPORT ON HOUSE BILL 5043 ENTITLED "AN ACT ESTABLISHING AND INSTITUTIONALIZING A PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT SYSTEM TO PROMOTE A CULTURE OF MERITOCRACY AMONG LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS IN THE PHILIPPINES" AND DELIBERATION ON HOUSE BILL NOS. 8900 AND 9288 SEEKING TO CREATE MANDATORY OFFICES IN CERTAIN LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS FROM THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

DATE : 07 March 2024

In reference to the letter received by our Office, the Committee on Local Government of the House of Representatives is inviting the Department to a meeting on **12 March 2024, Tuesday, 01:00PM** at **Conference Rooms 3 and 4, Ramon V. Mitra**

Building, House of Representatives to deliberate on the following legislative measures:

- **Draft Substitute Bill of House Bill No. 5043** - "AN ACT ESTABLISHING AND INSTITUTIONALIZING A PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT SYSTEM TO PROMOTE A CULTURE OF MERITOCRACY AMONG LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS IN THE PHILIPPINES" authored by Rep. Albert S. Garcia.
- **House Bill No. 8900** - "AN ACT CREATING A LOCAL URBAN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE IN EVERY CITY AND MUNICIPALITY" authored by Rep. Ivan Howard A. Guintu; and
- **House Bill No. 9288** - "AN ACT MANDATING THE CREATION OF A COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE FOR EVERY SANGGUNIAN" authored by Rep. Edgar M. Chatto.

In this regard, may we respectfully request for **additional comments/recommendations, if any**, on the abovementioned bills, in anticipation of the Committee meeting, as requested by the Committee. Kindly send them on or before **11 March 2024, at 5 PM** via email at denrlllo@denr.gov.ph.

Attached herewith are the Letter Invitation, Agenda, Draft Substitute Bill, Matrix of the Bill, and the House bills for your reference.


ROMIROSE B. PADIN

cc: Undersecretary for Special Concerns and Legislative Affairs



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Governance Cluster, Committee Affairs Department
Batasan Complex, Batasan Road, Constitution Hills, Quezon City, Metro Manila
Telephone Number(s): (Trunk Line) 931-5001 local 7128 (Fax) 931-407

HON. MARIA ANTONIA YULO LOYZAGA

Secretary

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Dear Hon. Yulo Loyzaga:

The Committee on Local Government will hold a meeting on **March 12, 2024 (Tuesday) at 1:00 PM** at **Ramon V. Mitra Building, Conference Rooms 3 and 4** to deliberate on the following House Bills:

1. **Draft substitute bill of House Bill no. 5043**-“An Act Establishing And Institutionalizing A Performance Measurement System To Promote A Culture Of Meritocracy Among Local Government Units In The Philippines” Introduced by Representative Albert S. Garcia
2. **House Bill No. 8900**- “An Act Creating a Local Urban Planning and Development Office in Every City and Municipality” Introduced By Representative Ivan Howard A. Guintu.
3. **House Bill No. 9288**- “ An Act Mandating the Creation of A Committee on Climate Change for Every Sanggunian” Introduced by Representative Edgar M. Chatto

In this regard, may we humbly request that the position paper be submitted to our Committee on or before **March 11, 2024 (Monday)**. For your reference, copies of the said House bills are attached to the e-mail. Thank you.

Very respectfully yours,

REP. MANUEL T. SAGARBARRIA

Chairperson

Committee on Local Government

FOR THE CHAIRPERSON:

(SGD) **LUTH MYR P. TEOXON**

Committee Secretary

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES QUEZON CITY
COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT
March 12, 2024 (Tuesday), 1:00 PM
Conference Rooms 3 & 4, Ramon V Mitra Building**

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
- II. INVOCATION**
- III. ROLL CALL**
- IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 28,2023 MEETING**
- V. OPENING REMARKS OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

- VI. DELIBERATION ON THE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP REPORT ON HOUSE BILL NO. 5043 ENTITLED “AN ACT ESTABLISHING AND INSTITUTIONALIZING A PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT SYSTEM TO PROMOTE A CULTURE OF MERITOCRACY AMONG LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS IN THE PHILIPPINES” – VICE CHAIRMAN ARNAN C. PANALIGAN, TWG CHAIRPERSON (1)**

- VII. DELIBERATION OF BILLS ON THE RENAMING OF BARANGAYS (7)**
 - 1) **House Bill No. 2856** – “An Act Reverting the Name of Barangay San Mariano in the Municipality of Bantay, Province of Ilocos Sur, to its Original Name Barangay Sallacong, Introduced by Representative Ronald V. Singson
 - 2) **House Bill 8138** - " An Act Changing The Name Of Barangay Chupac In The Municipality Of Barlig Province Of Mountain Province To Barangay Chupac-Kadaclan, Introduced By Representative Maximo Y. Dalog, Jr.
 - 3) **House Bill No. 8139** - “ An Act Changing The Name Of Barangay Kaleo In The Municipality Of Barlig, Province Of Mountain Province To Barangay Kaleo-Kadaclan, Introduced By Representative Maximo Y. Dalog, Jr.
 - 4) **House Bill No. 8140** –“ An Act Changing The Name Of Barangay Lunas In The Municipality Of Barlig, Province Of Mountain Province To Barangay Lunas- Kadaclan, Introduced By Representative Maximo Y. Dalog, Jr.
 - 5) **House Bill No. 8141** - “ An Act Changing The Name Of Barangay Ogo-Og In The Municipality Of Barlig, Province Of Mountain Province To Barangay Ogo-Og- Kadaclan, Introduced By Representative Maximo Y. Dalog, Jr.
 - 6) **House Bill No. 8920** - “ An Act Changing The Name Of Barangay 29 In The City Of Ormoc, Province Of Leyte, To Barangay North, Introduced By Representative Richard I. Gomez
 - 7) **House Bill No. 9910** - “An Act Renaming Barangay New Alabang Village In The Lone District Of Muntinlupa City As Barangay Ayala Alabang, Introduced By Representative Jaime R. Fresnedi

- VIII. INITIAL DELIBERATION OF BILLS SEEKING TO CREATE MANDATORY OFFICES IN CERTAIN LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (2)**
 - 1) **House Bill No. 8900** - “An Act Creating a Local Urban Planning and Development Office in Every City and Municipality” Introduced By Representative Ivan Howard A. Guintu.
 - 2) **House Bill No. 9288** - “ An Act Mandating the Creation of A Committee on Climate Change for Every Sanggunian” Introduced by Representative Edgar M. Chatto

- IX. OTHER MATTERS**
- X. ADJOURNMENT**

**MATRIX ON SEAL OF GOOD GOVERNANCE LAW (RA 11292)
V. MERITOCRACY BILL (HB 5043)
As of February 9, 2024**

RA 11292 Seal of Good Governance Law	HB 5043 Meritocracy Bill
An Act Establishing and Institutionalizing the Seal of Good Local Governance for Local Government Units, and Allocating for This Purpose the Seal of Good Local Governance Fund	An Act Consolidating All Performance Measurement Tools and Rewards Systems for all local government units (LGUs) by institutionalizing a Culture of Meritocracy in the Philippines, amending certain provisions of R.A. NO. 11292, otherwise known as 'THE SEAL OF GOOD LOCAL GOVERNANCE ACT OF 2019'
Section 1. Short Title. -This Act shall be known as "The Seal of Good Local Governance Act of 2019".	This Act shall be known as the " Local Governance Meritocracy Act ".
Section 2. Declaration of Policy. -It is hereby declared the policy of the State to recognize the good performance of local government units (LGUs) in transparency and accountability in the use of public funds, preparedness for challenges posed by disasters, sensitivity to the needs of vulnerable and marginalized sectors of society, implementation of health programs, investment and employment promotion, protection of constituency from threats to life and damage to property, and safeguarding the integrity of the environment. In such recognition, the State hopes to encourage all LGUs to take on greater challenges, encourage outcome-based performance and to reward local governments for their effort in pursuing the general welfare of their constituency and in enforcing existing laws.	SEC 2. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 11292 is hereby amended as follows: Section 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to recognize the good performance of local government units (LGUs) in transparency and accountability in the use of public funds, preparedness for challenges posed by disasters, sensitivity to the needs of vulnerable and marginalized sectors of society, implementation of health programs, investment and employment promotion, protection of constituency from threats to life and damage to property, and safeguarding the integrity of the environment. In such recognition, the State hopes to encourage all LGUs to take on greater challenges, encourage outcome-based performance and to reward local governments for their effort in pursuing the general welfare of their constituency and in enforcing existing laws. TO THIS END, A UNIFIED, PRACTICAL, AND REAL TIME PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT TOOL SHALL BE

	<p>INSTITUTIONALIZED TO GAUGE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF LGUS IN ACHIEVING THEIR RESPECTIVE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES IN THE AREAS OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, STANDARDS OF LIVING, AND PEACE AND ORDER. LGUS UNDER THIS ACT SHALL INCLUDE PROVINCES, CITIES, MUNICIPALITIES, AND BARANGAYS.</p>
<p>Section 3. <i>The Seal of Good Local Governance.</i> -The Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) is an award, incentive, honor and recognition-based program for all LGUs and is a continuing commitment for LGUs to continually progress and improve their performance in the following areas by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Upholding the practice of transparency and accountability in the use of public funds; (b) Preparing for challenges brought about by unpredictable natural calamities; (c) Demonstrating the readiness to help and sensitivity to the needs of vulnerable and marginalized sectors of society; (d) Setting-up, implementing and sustaining health policies and programs that would strengthen and promote the well-being, healthy lifestyle and safety of the public, ensuring that all individuals especially the vulnerable have fair opportunities for better health; (e) Instituting education reforms and programs to improve the quality of education in the country; (f) Encouraging pro-competitive policies and government interventions that promote market efficiency and consumer welfare; (g) Protecting constituents from threats to life and damage to property; 	

<p>(h) Safeguarding and preserving the integrity of the environment through adaptive social responsibility; and</p> <p>(i) Conserving local culture and heritage and fostering their value and significance for tourism opportunity.</p>	
<p>Section 4. <i>The Council of Good Local Governance.</i> -There is hereby established a Council of Good Local Governance (the "Council"), which shall be composed of the following:</p> <p>(a) Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG);</p> <p>(b) Department of Budget and Management (DBM);</p> <p>(c) Department of Finance (DOF);</p> <p>(d) Department of Health (DOH);</p> <p>(e) Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD);</p> <p>(f) Department of Education (DepEd);</p> <p>(g) Department of Tourism (DOT);</p>	<p>SEC 3. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 11292 is hereby amended to read as follows:</p> <p>Section 4. <i>The Council of Good Local Governance.</i> -There is hereby established a Council of Good Local Governance (the "Council"), which shall be composed of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG); 2. Department of Budget and Management (DBM); 3. Department of Finance (DOF); 4. Department of Health (DOH); 5. Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD); 6. Department of Education (DepEd); 7. COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED); 8. Department of Tourism (DOT);

(h) Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR);

(i) National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA);

(j) Office of Civil Defense; and

(k) One (1) representative from the basic sectors to be nominated by the National Anti-Poverty Commission.

The Secretary of the DILG shall act as Chairperson of the Council. The appropriate office of the DILG, as the latter may designate, shall serve as the Secretariat of the Council.

9. Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR);

10. National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA)

11. PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY (PSA);

12. PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP);

13. Office of Civil Defense; and

14. DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (DICT)

15. One (1) representative from the basic sectors to be nominated by the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC)

The Secretary of the DILG shall act as Chairperson of the Council, **AND THE PSA NATIONAL STATISTICIAN SHALL ACT AS CO-CHAIRPERSON.** The appropriate office of the DILG, as the latter may designate, shall serve as the Secretariat of the Council.

FOR PURPOSES OF THE DETERMINATION OF THE GRANTING OF THE SGLG, THERE SHALL BE FOUR (4) COMMITTEES TO BE FORMED WITHIN THE COUNCIL TO CORRESPOND WITH EACH OF THE DIMENSIONS OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MERITOCRACY CRITERIA, AS ENUMERATED UNDER SECTION 7 HEREOF AS FOLLOWS:

1. COMMITTEE ON HEALTH - TO BE CHAIRED BY THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH) TO BE SUPPORTED BY THE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCILS AND LOCAL HEALTH BOARDS;
2. COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION - TO BE CHAIRED BY THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED) AND CO-CHAIRED BY THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED) TO BE SUPPORTED BY THE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCILS AND THE LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS;
3. COMMITTEE ON PEACE AND ORDER AND PUBLIC SAFETY - TO BE CHAIRED BY SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO BE SUPPORTED BY THE NATIONAL PEACE AND ORDER COUNCIL AND THE PEACE AND ORDER COUNCILS AT THE REGIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS;
4. COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF LIVING - TO BE CHAIRED BY THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (NEDA) TO BE SUPPORTED BY THE REGIONAL AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCILS.

THE COUNCIL SHALL DESIGNATE EACH COUNCIL MEMBER TO BE PART OF THE PROPER COMMITTEE TO COINCIDE WITH ITS OFFICIAL MANDATE OR FUNCTION.

<p>Section 5. Powers and Functions of the Council. -The Council shall act as policy-making and advisory body to ensure the proper implementation of the SGLG. It shall perform the following powers and functions:</p> <p>(a) Develop and promulgate the performance indicators that shall serve as standards for evaluating the LGUs compliance and/or satisfaction of each of the criteria prescribed above: <i>Provided</i>, That the Council shall designate each Council member to lead the development of performance indicators in his/her area of jurisdiction or expertise and recommend the approval of such performance indicators by the Council: <i>Provided</i>, farther, That in the development and approval of the performance indicators, the Council shall take into consideration that LGUs may not be similarly situated and that one (1) or more indicators may be peculiarly inapplicable or extremely difficult to meet given the inherent limitations or circumstances of the LGUs;</p>	<p>SEC 4. Section 5 of Republic Act No. 11292 is hereby amended to read as follows:</p> <p>"Section 5. Powers and Functions of the Council. - The Council shall act as policy-making and advisory body to ensure the proper implementation of the SGLG. It shall perform the following powers and functions:</p> <p>a) Develop and promulgate the performance indicators that shall serve as standards for evaluating the LGUs' compliance and/or satisfaction of each of the criteria prescribed above AND BE IN CHARGE OF DATA COLLECTION, INTEGRATION AND PROCESSING STANDARDS FOR THIS MEASURE AND SUPPORT THE LGUS BY PROVIDING ANY DATA THEY NEED TO REGULARLY UPDATE THEIR DIMENSIONS UNDER THE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MERITOCRACY CRITERIA: <i>Provided</i>, That the Council shall designate each Council member to lead the development of performance indicators in his/her area of jurisdiction or expertise and recommend the approval of such performance indicators by the Council: <i>Provided</i>, further, That in the development and approval of the performance indicators, the Council shall take into consideration that LGUs may not be similarly situated and that one (1) or more indicators may be peculiarly inapplicable or extremely difficult to meet given the inherent limitations or circumstances of the LGUs; AND PROVIDED FINALLY, THAT THE COUNCIL SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE OF EACH LEVEL OF LGU VIS-À-VIS THEIR OWN RESPECTIVE HISTORICAL</p>
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PERFORMANCES BASED ON THE STANDARDS FOR EVALUATING EACH DIMENSION UNDER THE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MERITOCRACY CRITERIA AS DEFINED UNDER SECTION 7 OF THIS ACT.

(b) Review and/or revise the performance indicators consistent with the long-term development plans of the National Government. The development of indicators should reflect outcomes that are performance-based, encouraging outputs that reflect concrete benefits to the community in terms of policy, rules, regulations, behavior, skill competencies, knowledge, or attitude;

(c) Conduct an evaluation of the impact of this Act on the performance of the LGUs for purposes of determining the need for enhancing or continuing the SGLG, rolling out the SGLG in barangays, and recommending any amendatory legislation. For this purpose, the Council shall institute an effective feedback mechanism where the concerns of LGUs and other stakeholders on the implementation of the SGLG are appropriately considered;

(d) Create technical working groups, upon the recommendation of the Council member concerned, composed of experts from government agencies, representatives from the leagues of provinces, cities and municipalities, and other sectors, to assist the Council members in the performance of their respective functions as provided for in paragraph (a) of this section;

b) Review and/or revise the performance indicators consistent with the long-term development plans of the National Government. The development of indicators should reflect **DEVELOPMENT** outcomes that are performance-based, encouraging outputs that reflect concrete benefits to the community in terms of policy, rules, regulations, behavior, skill competencies, knowledge, or attitude

c) Conduct an **IMPACT** evaluation ~~of the impact~~ of this Act on the performance of the LGUs for purposes of determining the need for enhancing or continuing the SGLG, rolling out the SGLG in barangays **AND IN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES (NGAs)** and recommending any amendatory legislation. For this purpose, the Council shall institute an effective feedback mechanism where the concerns of LGUs and other stakeholders on the implementation of the SGLG are appropriately considered;

d) Create technical working groups, upon the recommendation of the Council member concerned, composed of experts from government agencies, representatives from the leagues of provinces, cities and municipalities, **BARANGAYS**, and other sectors, to assist the Council members in the performance of their

<p>(e) Submit to the President of the Philippines, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, on an annual basis, copies of the performance indicators approved by the Council together with the performance indicators developed and recommended by the lead Council member, and the result of the impact assessment conducted pursuant to paragraph (c) of this section; and</p> <p>(f) Perform such other functions as are necessary or incidental to properly carry out the purposes of this Act.</p>	<p>respective functions as provided for in paragraph (a) of this section;</p> <p>e) Submit to the President of the Philippines, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, on an annual basis, copies of the performance indicators approved by the Council together with the performance indicators developed and recommended by the lead Council member, and the result of the impact assessment conducted pursuant to paragraph (c) of this section; and</p> <p>f) Perform such other functions as are necessary or incidental to properly carry out the purposes of this Act.</p>
<p>Section 6. Implementing Agency. -The DILG shall be the implementing agency of this Act. It shall, through its relevant bureaus and offices, and in consultation and coordination with partner agencies or sectors, be responsible for the assessment and evaluation of each LGU relative to its compliance with the criteria, and recommend to the Council whether an LGU qualifies to be conferred or awarded the SGLG.</p>	<p>SEC 5. Section 6 of Republic Act No. 11292 is hereby amended to read as follows:</p> <p>Section 6. Implementing Agency. -The DILG AND THE PSA shall be the JOINT implementing agency AGENCIES of this Act. They THEY shall, through THEIR its relevant bureaus and offices, and in consultation and coordination with partner agencies or sectors, THE RESPECTIVE LEAGUES OF LGUs AND LOCAL OFFICIALS, AND CONCERNED LGUs, be responsible for the assessment and evaluation of each LGU relative to its compliance with the criteria, and SHALL recommend to the Council whether an LGU qualifies to be conferred or awarded the SGLG OR OTHER APPROPRIATE ACTION AS MAY BE ALLOWED IN THIS ACT.</p>

The DILG shall call on any other concerned agencies, civil society organizations (CSOs), or sectors, as it may deem necessary, to assist in carrying out its responsibilities under this Act.

The DILG shall call on any other concerned agencies, civil society organizations (CSOs), or **THE PRIVATE** sectors, as it may deem necessary, to assist in carrying out its responsibilities under this Act.

(a) THE DILG AND/OR PSA MAY, INDIVIDUALLY OR JOINTLY, CALL ON ANY OTHER CONCERNED AGENCIES AND INSTRUMENTALITIES, LGU LEAGUES, CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS (CSOS), SECTORS, OR OTHER BODIES, AS IT MAY DEEM NECESSARY, TO ASSIST IN CARRYING OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THIS ACT.

(b) THE PSA WILL SERVE AS THE PRIMARY DATA CUSTODIAN AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL. IT WILL BE IN CHARGE OF SETTING UP A DATA REPOSITORY THAT WILL BE MADE ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE DATA PRIVACY ACT.

(c) THE DILG, IN COORDINATION WITH PSA, SHALL RECOGNIZE WELL-PERFORMING LGUS AND PROVIDE FINANCIAL INCENTIVES TO THE BEST PERFORMING LGUS OR ENFORCE THE APPROPRIATE MEASURES, AS PROVIDED IN THIS ACT; PROVIDED IT CONFORMS TO THE PRINCIPLE OF SUBSIDIARITY AS GUARANTEED UNDER SEC. 4, ARTICLE X OF THE 1987 CONSTITUTION.

(d) THE PSA SHALL FINALIZE THE DATA COLLECTION, INTEGRATION, AND PROCESSING STANDARDS THAT WILL BE SHARED WITH AND USED BY THE LGUS.

	<p>THE DILG, IN COORDINATION WITH THE PSA, SHALL BE IN CHARGE OF PROVIDING CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAINING SESSIONS FOR LGUS IN VIEW OF FULFILLING THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THIS MEASURE.</p>
<p>Section 7. Criteria.— For the purpose of this Act, the areas in the criteria shall be understood and interpreted as follows:</p> <p>(a) Good Fiscal or Financial Administration or Financial Sustainability – This refers to the condition where an LGU demonstrates positive and stable economic performance, and maintains, preserves and mandatorily upholds the practice of fiscal discipline, accountability and transparency by adhering to budgetary rules, public financial management, generally accepted and recognized accounting and auditing standards and full disclosure policy. Indicators shall include: (1) the issuance of an unqualified or qualified opinion on the financial statements of an LGU by the Commission on Audit (COA) in the immediately preceding year; (2) full, strict, and exacting compliance with the Full Disclosure</p>	<p>SEC 6. Section 7 of Republic Act No. 11292 is hereby amended to read as follows:</p> <p>Section 7. Criteria.— For the purpose of this Act, THERE WILL BE TWO CRITERIA CATEGORIES FOCUSED ON DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF LOCAL GOVERNANCE. THE FIRST CRITERIA CATEGORY SHALL BE KNOWN AS "GOVERNANCE CRITERIA" THAT WILL FOCUS ON PROCESSES AND INPUTS FOR STRENGTHENING LOCAL GOVERNANCE. THE SECOND CRITERIA CATEGORY SHALL BE CALLED "HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MERITOCRACY CRITERIA" AND WILL FOCUS ON GAUGING DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES THAT AN LGU IS EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE. The areas DIMENSIONS in the EACH criteria CATEGORY shall be understood and interpreted as follows:</p> <p>(1) GOVERNANCE CRITERIA</p> <p>(a) Good Fiscal or Financial Administration or Financial Sustainability – This refers to the condition where an LGU demonstrates positive and stable economic performance, and maintains, preserves and mandatorily upholds the practice of fiscal discipline, accountability and transparency by adhering to budgetary rules, public financial management, generally accepted and recognized accounting and auditing standards and full disclosure policy. Indicators shall include: (1) the issuance of an unqualified or qualified opinion on the financial statements of an LGU by the Commission on Audit (COA) in the immediately preceding year; (2) full,</p>

Policy (FDP) of local budget and finances, bids and public offerings; and (3) posting of financial documents required to be posted in the FDP portal in the local government's website.

(b) Disaster Preparedness – This refers to an LGU's preparedness for any disaster or natural or man-made calamity, by adopting relevant plans, taking proactive actions, and building its capacity to respond effectively to emergencies when needed. Indicators shall include: (1) having structures, plans and systems in place for disaster preparedness; (2) availability of a Provincial Development and Physical Framework Plan/Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) Plan, Contingency Plan, and Local Climate Change Action Plan; (3) availability of working early warning and evacuation alert systems, evacuation centers, standard operating procedures in the event of disaster or calamity, emergency transportation facilities, relief operation equipment and tools, medical services, registration and security; and (4) being an awardee of the National Gawad KALASAG for Best Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council.

(c) Social Protection and Sensitivity Program – This refers to an LGU's sensitivity and responsiveness to the needs of its constituents, recognizing and upholding the rights and privileges particularly those belonging to the vulnerable or disadvantaged sectors, such as, but not limited to, women, children, indigenous people, elderly, persons with disability (PWD), and informal settlers. Indicators shall include: (1) providing access to justice, particularly in cases of violence against women and children; (2) providing access for PWDs, senior citizens and pregnant women in frontline services; (3) enhancing mobility for

strict, and exacting compliance with the Full Disclosure Policy (FDP) of local budget and finances, bids and public offerings; and (3) posting of financial documents required to be posted in the FDP portal in the local government's website.

(b) Disaster Preparedness – This refers to an LGU's preparedness for any disaster or natural or man-made calamity, by adopting relevant plans, taking proactive actions, and building its capacity to respond effectively to emergencies when needed. Indicators shall include: (1) having structures, plans and systems in place for disaster preparedness; (2) availability of a Provincial Development and Physical Framework Plan/Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) Plan, Contingency Plan, and Local Climate Change Action Plan; (3) availability of working early warning and evacuation alert systems, evacuation centers, standard operating procedures in the event of disaster or calamity, emergency transportation facilities, relief operation equipment and tools, medical services, registration and security; and (4) being an awardee of the National Gawad KALASAG for Best Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council.

(c) Social Protection and Sensitivity Program – This refers to an LGU's sensitivity and responsiveness to the needs of its constituents, recognizing and upholding the rights and privileges particularly those belonging to the vulnerable or disadvantaged sectors, such as, but not limited to, women, children, indigenous people, elderly, persons with disability (PWD), and informal settlers. Indicators shall include: (1) providing access to justice, particularly in cases of violence against women and children; (2) providing access for PWDs, senior citizens and

PWDs in public infrastructure like local government center and hospitals in accordance with the Accessibility Law; (4) mandatory representation of indigenous people in compliance with the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act of 1997; (5) compliance with the mandatory representation in the sanggunian with representative accorded with regular privileges and emoluments of a sanggunian member; (6) presence of at least one (1) accredited LGU-managed residential care facility for the vulnerable sectors; and (7) representation from NGOs in the local development council and other special bodies consistent with the pertinent provisions of the Local Government Code.

(d) *Health Compliance and Responsiveness* – This refers to the LGU's capability to effectively implement and deliver health services and information systems as well as pursue evidenced-based health promotion and protection policies scientifically proven and accepted to advance population health and individual well-being, reduce the prevalence of non-communicable diseases and its risk factors, lower the incidence of new infectious diseases, address mental health issues and improve health status throughout the life course. Indicators shall include: (1) ensuring access to nutritious, safe and affordable food; (2) regularly conducting physical activities in communities and schools; (3) strict enforcement of laws and ordinances that regulate tobacco sale and use, harmful alcohol consumption, and use of illicit drugs; (4) providing access to safe water and sanitation; (5) implementing immunization programs; (6) ensuring access to primary health care including prevention programs for hypertension, diabetes and cancer; and (7) establishing local surveillance and epidemiology systems to monitor health service delivery.

pregnant women in frontline services; (3) enhancing mobility for PWDs in public infrastructure like local government center and hospitals in accordance with the Accessibility Law; (4) mandatory representation of indigenous people in compliance with the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act of 1997; (5) compliance with the mandatory representation in the sanggunian with representative accorded with regular privileges and emoluments of a sanggunian member; (6) presence of at least one (1) accredited LGU-managed residential care facility for the vulnerable sectors; and (7) representation from NGOs in the local development council and other special bodies consistent with the pertinent provisions of the Local Government Code.

(d) *Health Compliance and Responsiveness* – This refers to the LGU's capability to effectively implement and deliver health services and information systems as well as pursue evidenced-based health promotion and protection policies scientifically proven and accepted to advance population health and individual well-being, reduce the prevalence of non-communicable diseases and its risk factors, lower the incidence of new infectious diseases, address mental health issues and improve health status throughout the life course. Indicators shall include: (1) ensuring access to nutritious, safe and affordable food; (2) regularly conducting physical activities in communities and schools; (3) strict enforcement of laws and ordinances that regulate tobacco sale and use, harmful alcohol consumption, and use of illicit drugs; (4) providing access to safe water and sanitation; (5) implementing immunization programs; (6) ensuring access to primary health care including prevention programs for hypertension, diabetes and cancer; and

(e) *Programs for Sustainable Education* – This refers to the initiatives of an LGU to institute education reforms and programs, provide equal access to quality education, promote lifelong learning opportunities for all, foster sports development and instill leadership and patriotism among the youth, as demonstrated by positive changes in the behavior and performance of individual citizens and the community as a whole. Indicators shall include positive results produced by Local School Board Policies and Programs, such as: (1) increased participation rate of students; (2) decreased number of drop-outs as well as out-of-school youths; (3) increase in cohort survival rates; (4) increase in achievement scores as measured by the national tests or assessment tools; and (5) establishment of child development centers, support to special education and the alternative learning system and parent effectiveness service program.

(f) *Business Friendliness and Competitiveness* – This refers to an LGU's unconventional initiative in encouraging local investment, together with local business enterprises and the working sector, through the adoption of policies, programs, systems, structures and/or local legislation that attract and create investment opportunities, and promote a business climate conducive to sustainable business growth. Indicators shall include: (1) adoption of simplified business processing and licensing system; (2) tracking of economic data of the locality and the sharing of the same with investors; (3) designation of a local economic investment promotion officer or its equivalent; (4) existence of an updated Citizen's Charter; (5) adoption and maintenance of an updated Local Investment Incentive Code; and (6) good performance

(7) establishing local surveillance and epidemiology systems to monitor health service delivery.

(e) *Programs for Sustainable Education* – This refers to the initiatives of an LGU to institute education reforms and programs, provide equal access to quality education, promote lifelong learning opportunities for all, foster sports development and instill leadership and patriotism among the youth, as demonstrated by positive changes in the behavior and performance of individual citizens and the community as a whole. Indicators shall include positive results produced by Local School Board Policies and Programs, such as: (1) increased participation rate of students; (2) decreased number of drop-outs as well as out-of-school youths; (3) increase in cohort survival rates; (4) increase in achievement scores as measured by the national tests or assessment tools; and (5) establishment of child development centers, support to special education and the alternative learning system and parent effectiveness service program.

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in business promotion as shown by the result of Business Friendliness or Competitiveness Assessment by the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry or the National Competitiveness Council.

(g) *Safety, Peace and Order* – This refers to a condition where an LGU establishes good and respectable performance in terms of maintaining peace and order in the community as demonstrated by reduced crime rate, effective anti-illegal drugs campaign, and efficient traffic management, among others, through the implementation of activities, programs and policies, and the appropriate provision of support mechanisms to ensure the safety and protection of its constituencies from injuries and unnecessary threats to life, security and property. Indicators shall include: (1) adopting a Local Anti-Criminality Action Plan or Peace and Order and Public Safety Plan; (2) providing logistical or financial support to the local police; (3) convening regularly the local Peace and Order Council; (4) establishing a functional local Anti-Drug Abuse Council; and (5) establishing and implementing a community-oriented policing mechanism.

(h) *Environmental Management* – This refers to an LGU's initiative to institute policies and programs that consistently and significantly preserves and protects the integrity of the environment with primary focus on solid waste management and ecological balance, as well as mitigation and adaptation to climate change. Indicators shall include: (1) advancing local policy and programs of action on Environmental Impact Assessment; (2) promoting social awareness and social responsibility programs; (3) managing and maintaining ecological balance within their territorial jurisdiction; (4) complying

updated Local Investment Incentive Code; and (6) good performance in business promotion as shown by the result of Business Friendliness or Competitiveness Assessment by the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry or the National Competitiveness Council.

(g) *Safety, Peace and Order* – This refers to a condition where an LGU establishes good and respectable performance in terms of maintaining peace and order in the community as demonstrated by reduced crime rate, effective anti-illegal drugs campaign, and efficient traffic management, among others, through the implementation of activities, programs and policies, and the appropriate provision of support mechanisms to ensure the safety and protection of its constituencies from injuries and unnecessary threats to life, security and property. Indicators shall include: (1) adopting a Local Anti-Criminality Action Plan or Peace and Order and Public Safety Plan; (2) providing logistical or financial support to the local police; (3) convening regularly the local Peace and Order Council; (4) establishing a functional local Anti-Drug Abuse Council; and (5) establishing and implementing a community-oriented policing mechanism.

(h) *Environmental Management* – This refers to an LGU's initiative to institute policies and programs that consistently and significantly preserves and protects the integrity of the environment with primary focus on solid waste management and ecological balance, as well as mitigation and adaptation to climate change. Indicators shall include: (1) advancing local policy and programs of action on Environmental Impact Assessment; (2) promoting social awareness and social responsibility programs; (3) managing and maintaining ecological balance within their

with at least the minimum standards set by the provisions of the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000; (5) establishing a material recovery-facility or an existing partnership with an entity with facilities that may be used for such purpose; (6) having access to a sanitary landfill or alternative technology; (7) maintaining an organized local Solid Waste Management Board; and (8) instituting policies, programs, systems, structures and/or local legislation in order to support and promote environmental protection in all levels of human transaction.

(i) *Tourism, Heritage Development, Culture and Arts* – This refers to an LGU’s ability to promote and protect Philippine identity through local heritage and culture, or local legacy, in terms of preserving the cultural, historical and indigenous significance of the community, marketing the characteristics which the LGU is known or recognized for, and attracting foreign and local visitors and tourists to the locality. Indicators shall include: (1) the presence of a Local Tourism Officer or designated officer; (2) the establishment of a Tourist Information and Assistance Center; (3) the establishment of a tracking system of tourism data; (4) the presence of a local council for the promotion of culture and the arts; (5) the approval and implementation of a budget appropriated for the conservation and preservation of cultural property; and (6) existence of an updated cultural property inventory in the LGU.

(j) *Youth Development* – This refers to an LGU’s ability to promote and establish adequate, effective, responsive and enabling mechanisms and support systems that will ensure the meaningful participation of the youth in local governance and nation-building. Indicators shall include:

territorial jurisdiction; (4) complying with at least the minimum standards set by the provisions of the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000; (5) establishing a material recovery-facility or an existing partnership with an entity with facilities that may be used for such purpose; (6) having access to a sanitary landfill or alternative technology; (7) maintaining an organized local Solid Waste Management Board; and (8) instituting policies, programs, systems, structures and/or local legislation in order to support and promote environmental protection in all levels of human transaction.

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(j) *Youth Development* – This refers to an LGU’s ability to promote and establish adequate, effective, responsive and enabling mechanisms and support systems that will ensure the meaningful participation of the youth in local governance and nation-building.

(1) adopting a local youth development program; (2) establishing a local youth development council; (3) providing a youth development office which shall be headed by a youth development officer; and (4) instituting policies, programs and systems in order to support and promote the vital role of youth in local governance.

Indicators shall include: (1) adopting a local youth development program; (2) establishing a local youth development council; (3) providing a youth development office which shall be headed by a youth development officer; and (4) instituting policies, programs and systems in order to support and promote the vital role of youth in local governance.

(2) HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MERITOCRACY CRITERIA

(A) HEALTH AND SOCIAL DIMENSION - THIS DIMENSION MEASURES THE OVERALL QUALITY OF HEALTH WITHIN A LOCALITY THROUGH THE LONGEVITY OF LIFE OF ITS CONSTITUENTS.

(B) EDUCATION - THIS DIMENSION MEASURES THE ACCESS TO QUALITY OF EDUCATION OF A LOCALITY'S CONSTITUENTS.

(C) STANDARD OF LIVING - THIS DIMENSION MEASURES THE LEVEL OF INCOME OF CONSTITUENTS AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN A LOCALITY.

(D) PEACE AND ORDER & PUBLIC SAFETY - THIS DIMENSION MEASURES THE PREVALENCE OF CRIME WITHIN A LOCALITY.

EACH DIMENSION UNDER THE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MERITOCRACY CRITERIA SHALL BE MEASURED USING A SET OF INDICATORS. THE SET OF INDICATORS FOR EACH DIMENSION SHALL BE FORMULATED AND DETERMINED BY THE CONCERNED COMMITTEE

AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL BASED ON ACCEPTABLE STANDARDS USED NATIONALLY OR INTERNATIONALLY, TOGETHER WITH THE DATA IN THE PHILIPPINE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT (PHDR). IN DETERMINING SUCH, THE COUNCIL SHALL PRIORITIZE INDICATORS THAT MAY BE RETRIEVED FROM NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT SOURCES WITHOUT THE NEED FOR PRIMARY DATA GATHERING METHODOLOGIES SUCH AS STATISTICAL SURVEYS, CENSUS, AND REGISTERS.

THE SET OF INDICATORS FOR EACH DIMENSION SHALL BE USED TO COMPUTE FOR THE QUALIFICATIONS OF EACH LGU AND ASSESSED BASED ON THEIR RESPECTIVE HISTORICAL GROWTH OR PERFORMANCE SO THAT EACH LEVEL OF LGU COMPETES AGAINST ITSELF AND NOT AS AGAINST OTHER LGUS.

THE PERFORMANCE OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS AS DESIGNATED UNDER LAW SHALL ALSO BE MEASURED USING THE DIMENSIONS UNDER THIS SECTION. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS, HOWEVER, SHALL NOT BE SUBJECT TO ASSESSMENT AND INCENTIVES AS STIPULATED UNDER THIS ACT.

THE COUNCIL SHALL CONTINUOUSLY EXPLORE ALTERNATIVE STATISTICAL INDICATORS FOR THE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MERITOCRACY CRITERIA, AS MAY BE NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE FOR PURPOSES OF FASTER DATA COLLECTION AND PROCESSING. THESE INDICATORS SHALL BE UPDATED ANNUALLY BY THE CONCERNED AGENCY AND SHARED WITH THE CONCERNED LGUS TO ENSURE THAT

<p>The foregoing criteria may be expanded by the Council to align with the thrusts of the National Government and attune them with the changing times.</p>	<p>THE DATA EFFECTIVELY REFLECTS THE KEY DIMENSIONS OF THE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MERITOCRACY CRITERIA AS STIPULATED UNDER THIS ACT AND ARE MORE READILY TRANSPARENT AND ACCESSIBLE FOR EFFICIENT COLLECTION AND PROCESSING OF THE LGUS AND IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES.</p> <p>The foregoing criteria may be expanded by the Council to align with the thrusts of the National Government and attune them with the changing times.</p>
	<p>SEC 7. Two new sections denominated as Section 7-A and Section 7-B respectively are inserted after Section 7 of Republic Act No. 11292 to read as follows:</p> <p>SEC. 7-A. DATA COLLECTION. – LGUS SHALL BE DESIGNATED AS THE PRIMARY DATA COLLECTING AGENCY WITHIN THEIR RESPECTIVE LOCALITIES.</p> <p>FOR PURPOSES OF THIS ACT, LGUS MAY OPT TO HIRE THE NECESSARY PERSONNEL, SUCH AS STATISTICIANS AND OTHERS, THE NUMBER AND POSITIONS OF WHICH SHALL BE DETERMINED BY THE COUNCIL THROUGH THE REVISED IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS (RIRR) TO BE ISSUED THEREFOR.</p> <p>CONSISTENT WITH SECTION 7 OF THIS ACT, DATA THAT MAY BE ACCESSED WITHOUT THE NEED FOR PRIMARY DATA GATHERING METHODOLOGIES AS DESCRIBED ABOVE SHALL BE PRIORITIZED.</p>

	<p>SEC. 7-B. PERIODICITY OF DATA COLLECTION. – FOR THE “HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MERITOCRACY CRITERIA” UNDER SECTION 7 OF THIS ACT, REGULAR AND SYNCHRONIZED DATA COLLECTION SHALL BE CONDUCTED BY LGUS ANNUALLY OR ON SHORTER PERIODS BASED ON THE LATEST AVAILABILITY OF IDENTIFIED INDICATORS. IN THE CONDUCT OF DATA COLLECTION, LGUS SHALL RECEIVE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE APPROPRIATE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, AS NEEDED.</p> <p>TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, LGUS ARE EXPECTED TO MONITOR INDICATORS AT SHORTER INTERVALS AS IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT BECOMES MUCH MORE ESTABLISHED.</p>
<p>Section 8. Requisites to Qualify for SGLG. -An LGU, which, according to the assessment of the DILG, complies, qualifies, and passes all assessment criteria as provided in Section 7 of this Act, shall be conferred and awarded the SGLG and granted the corresponding incentive as provided under Section 11 of this Act.</p>	<p>SEC 8. Section 8 of Republic Act No. 11292 is hereby amended to read as follows:</p> <p>Section 8. Requisites to Qualify for SGLG. - An LGU, which, according to the assessment of the DILG, complies, qualifies, and passes all assessment criteria as provided in Section 7 of this Act, AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL, shall be conferred and awarded the SGLG and granted the corresponding RECOGNITION, AWARDS AND MONETARY incentiveS as provided under Section 11 of this Act. IN ASSESSING AN LGU’S QUALIFICATION FOR THE SGLG, GREATER CONSIDERATION SHALL BE GIVEN TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT’S COMPLIANCE WITH THE “HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MERITOCRACY CRITERIA” AS ENUMERATED UNDER SECTION 7 OF THIS ACT. 70% OF ANY NUMERICAL ASSESSMENT WEIGHT SHALL BE ASSIGNED TO THE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MERITOCRACY CRITERIA WHILE 30% SHALL BE FOR THE GOVERNANCE CRITERIA.</p>

<p>Section 9. Rules of Interpretation. -In order to ensure and preserve the prestige of the SGLG, in the interpretation of the provisions of this Act, all definitions of the criteria and all rules and regulations issued pursuant to this Act shall be strictly construed against the LGUs. It shall be the burden of an LGU to show that it qualifies for the SGLG.</p>	
<p>Section 10. Implementing Rules and Regulations. -The Council shall formulate and promulgate the rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act within ninety (90) days from the effectivity thereof.</p>	<p>SEC 15. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the members of the Council led by the PSA and the DILG, TOGETHER WITH THE UNION OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES OF THE PHILIPPINES (ULAP) AND THE LEAGUES OF LGUS AND LOCAL OFFICIALS, shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.</p>
<p>Section 11. The SGLG Incentive Fund. -There is hereby created a special account under the General Appropriations Act (GAA) called the "SGLG Fund". The Fund shall be utilized only to pay out the incentives granted to LGUs which qualify for the SGLG.</p> <p>The Council established under Section 4 of this Act shall have the authority to determine the monetary incentives for LGUs based on the number of awardees. It shall also have the authority to re-evaluate and increase the amount of SGLG incentive to be awarded to LGUs: <i>Provided, That</i>, the increase shall be subject to the sufficiency of the Fund at the time the increment is implemented.</p>	<p>SEC 9. Section 11 of Republic Act No. 11292 is hereby amended to read as follows</p> <p>Section 11. The SGLG Incentive Fund. -There is hereby created a special account under the General Appropriations Act (GAA) called the "SGLG Fund". The Fund shall be utilized only to pay out the incentives granted to LGUs which qualify for the SGLG.</p> <p>The Council established under Section 4 of this Act shall have the authority to determine the monetary incentives for LGUs based on the number of awardees. It shall also have the authority to re-evaluate and increase the amount of SGLG incentiveS to be awarded to LGUs; <i>Provided, That</i>, the increase shall be subject to the sufficiency of the Fund at the time the increment is implemented.</p> <p>MONETARY INCENTIVES FOR LGUS UNDER THIS ACT MAY ALSO BE SOURCED FROM THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FUND (LGSF) UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET & MANAGEMENT AND</p>

	<p>OTHER FUND ASSISTANCE TO LGUS UNDER THE DILG OR OTHER AGENCIES.</p> <p>RECOGNITION OF LGUS FOR THE SGLG WILL BE CONDUCTED AT LEAST ANNUALLY. QUARTERLY OR BI-ANNUAL RECOGNITIONS ARE ALSO EXPECTED TO BE EXPLORED AS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEASURE BECOMES MUCH MORE ESTABLISHED.</p> <p>LGUS EXPERIENCING PERSISTENT AND UNJUSTIFIABLE DECLINES IN THE INDICATORS TO BE IDENTIFIED UNDER THE "HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MERITOCRACY CRITERIA" UNDER SECTION 7 OF THIS ACT MAY BE DISINCENTIVISED, IN THE FORM OF LOWER OR ZERO INCENTIVES. PROVIDED HOWEVER, THAT THESE DECLINES ARE NOT DUE TO EXTERNAL SHOCKS, SUCH AS NATURAL CALAMITIES, PANDEMICS, OR UNFORESEEABLE EVENTS BEYOND THE CONTROL OF THE LGUS; AND PROVIDED FURTHER, THAT THE SPECIFIC BENCHMARKS OR STANDARDS PERTAINING TO THE QUALIFYING PERCENTAGE DECREASE AND THE SUPPLEMENTARY CRITERIA WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE COUNCIL.</p>
<p>Section 12. Utilization and Limitations on Expenditures of the Incentives Under the SGLG Fund. -The use of the incentives paid out of the SGLG Fund -shall be governed by the policies governing the utilization of the twenty percent (20%) of the annual Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) for local development projects, the Annual Investment Program (AIP) and the Local Development Investment Program (LDIP).</p>	<p>SEC. 10. Section 12 of Republic Act No. 11292 is hereby amended to read as follows:</p> <p>Section 12. <i>Utilization and Limitations on Expenditures of the Incentives Under the SGLG Fund.</i> -The use of the incentives paid out of the SGLG Fund -shall be governed by the policies governing the utilization of the twenty percent (20%) of the annual Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) NATIONAL TAX ALLOTMENT (NTA) for local development projects, the Annual Investment Program (AIP) and the Local Development Investment Program (LDIP).</p>

The incentives paid out of the SGLG Fund shall not be used for any of the following:

- (a) Financing micro credits and loans;
- (b) Travel expenses, whether domestic or foreign, except when the purpose is in furtherance of the purposes of this Act;
- (c) Administrative expenses of the LGU including, but not limited to, cash gifts, bonuses, food allowances, staff uniforms, communication bills, utilities, transportation costs and the like;
- (d) Purchase, maintenance or repair of any motor vehicles or motorcycles not directly used for the SGLG undertaking;
- (e) Salaries, wages, emoluments, per diems or overtime pay of employees;
- (f) Construction, repair, or refurbishing of administrative offices; and
- (g) Loan guarantee.

The **MONETARY** incentives paid out of the SGLG Fund shall not be used for any of the following:

- (a) Financing micro credits and loans;
- (b) Travel expenses, whether domestic or foreign, except when the purpose is in furtherance of the purposes of this Act;
- (c) Administrative expenses of the LGU including, but not limited to, cash gifts, bonuses, food allowances, staff uniforms, communication bills, utilities, transportation costs and the like;
- (d) Purchase, maintenance or repair of any motor vehicles or motorcycles not directly used for the SGLG undertaking;
- (e) Salaries, wages, emoluments, per diems or overtime pay of employees;
- (f) Construction, repair, or refurbishing of administrative offices; and
- (g) Loan guarantee.

Section 13. Technical Assistance for Capacity-Building. -The DILG shall release the governance assessment report which shall, in part, identify the local governance gaps to the respective LGUs. The

<p>national government agencies concerned shall provide technical assistance for capacity-building on identified gaps of LGUs which have not qualified for the SGLG award.</p>	
<p>Section 14. Management and Administration of the SGLG Fund. - The SGLG Fund established under Section 11 of this Act shall be managed and administered by the DILG with the supervision of the Council. Appropriation to replenish the amount paid out from the Fund during the year and/or to augment the Fund shall be proposed by and included in the budget of the DILG under the GAA.</p>	<p>SEC 11. Section 14 of Republic Act No. 11292 is hereby amended to read as follows:</p> <p>Section 14. Management and Administration of the SGLG Fund. - The SGLG Fund established under Section 11 of this Act shall be managed and administered by the DILG with the supervision of the Council. Appropriation to replenish the amount paid out from the Fund during the year and/or to augment the Fund shall be proposed by THE COUNCIL and ANNUALLY included in the budget of the DILG under the GAA.</p>
<p>Section 15. Guarantee of Local Government Autonomy. -The autonomy of LGUs shall be respected at all times. Nothing in this Act shall be interpreted as limiting the autonomy of LGUs to establish policies and pursue programs and projects designed not only to qualify for the SGLG award but also to ensure the enjoyment of their constituency the right to life, liberty, property, health, education, balanced and healthful ecology, among others, in the exercise of their power under the general welfare clause.</p>	<p>SEC 12. Section 15 of Republic Act No. 11292 is hereby amended to read as follows:</p> <p>Section 15. Guarantee of Local Government Autonomy. - The LOCAL AND FISCAL autonomy of LGUs, AS GUARANTEED UNDER THE 1987 CONSTITUTION, shall be respected at all times. Nothing in this Act shall be interpreted as limiting the autonomy of LGUs to establish policies and pursue programs and projects designed not only to qualify for the LGMS award but also to ensure the enjoyment of their constituency the right to life, liberty, property, health, education, balanced and healthful ecology, among others, in the exercise of their POLICE power under the general welfare clause. THE CONSTITUTIONAL MANDATE ON SUBSIDIARITY PURSUANT TO THE PRESIDENT'S POWER OF SUPERVISION OVER LGUS SHALL BE RESPECTED AT ALL TIMES.</p>

<p>Section 16. SGLG Operating Fund. -The activities and operational expenses, other than the incentive payouts, related to the implementation of this Act shall be initially funded from the DILG's Performance Challenge Fund. Thereafter, the DILG shall include in its annual budget to be incorporated in the GAA, the item for the SGLG operating fund in the amount equivalent to two percent (2%) of the SGLG Fund.</p>	<p>SEC 13. Section 16 of Republic Act No. 11292 is hereby amended to read as follows:</p> <p>Section 16. <i>SGLG Operating Fund.</i> - The activities and operational expenses, other than the incentive payouts, related to the implementation of this Act shall be initially funded from the DILG's Performance Challenge Fund. Thereafter, the DILG shall include in its annual budget to be incorporated in the GAA, the item for the SGLG operating fund in the amount equivalent to NOT LESS THAN FIVE two percent (2%) (5%) of the SGLG Fund.</p>
	<p>SEC 14. Data Privacy. - This data collection system shall respect the fundamental human right of privacy, ensure data quality, and uphold data protection principles of legitimate purpose, transparency, and proportionality.</p>
<p>Section 17. Separability Clause. -Should any part or provision of this Act be held unconstitutional or invalid, all other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.</p>	<p>SEC 16. Separability Clause. - If any provision or part of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect</p>
<p>Section 18. Repealing Clause. -All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.</p>	<p>SEC 17. Repealing Clause. - Any law, presidential decree, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.</p>
<p>Section 19. Effectivity. -This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation whichever is earlier.</p>	<p>SEC 18. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.</p>



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS

Second Regular Session

House Bill No. _____

Introduced by Representative Albert S. Garcia

An Act Consolidating All Performance Measurement Tools and Rewards Systems for all local government units (LGUs) by institutionalizing a Culture of Meritocracy in the Philippines, amending certain provisions of R.A. NO. 11292, otherwise known as 'THE SEAL OF GOOD LOCAL GOVERNANCE ACT OF 2019'

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippine Congress Assembled:

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the "**Local Governance Meritocracy Act**".

SEC 2. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 11292 is hereby amended as follows:

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to recognize the good performance of local government units (LGUs) in transparency and accountability in the use of public funds, preparedness for challenges posed by disasters, sensitivity to the needs of vulnerable and marginalized sectors of society, implementation of health programs, investment and employment promotion, protection of constituency from threats to life and damage to property, and safeguarding the integrity of the environment. In such recognition, the State hopes to encourage all LGUs to take on greater challenges, encourage outcome-based performance and to reward local governments for their effort in pursuing the general welfare of their constituency and in enforcing existing laws.

TO THIS END, A UNIFIED, PRACTICAL, AND REAL TIME PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT TOOL SHALL BE INSTITUTIONALIZED TO GAUGE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF LGUS IN ACHIEVING THEIR RESPECTIVE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES IN THE AREAS OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, STANDARDS OF LIVING, AND PEACE AND ORDER. LGUS UNDER THIS

ACT SHALL INCLUDE PROVINCES, CITIES, MUNICIPALITIES, AND BARANGAYS.

SEC 3. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 11292 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 4. *The Council of Good Local Governance.* -There is hereby established a Council of Good Local Governance (the "Council"), which shall be composed of the following:

1. Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG);
2. Department of Budget and Management (DBM);
3. Department of Finance (DOF);
4. Department of Health (DOH);
5. Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD);
6. Department of Education (DepEd);
7. **COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED);**
8. Department of Tourism (DOT);
9. Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR);
10. National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA)
11. PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY (PSA);
12. PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP);
13. Office of Civil Defense; ~~and~~
14. DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (DICT)
15. One (1) representative from the basic sectors to be nominated by the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC)

The Secretary of the DILG shall act as Chairperson of the Council, AND THE PSA NATIONAL STATISTICIAN SHALL ACT AS CO-CHAIRPERSON. The appropriate office of the DILG, as the latter may designate, shall serve as the Secretariat of the Council.

FOR PURPOSES OF THE DETERMINATION OF THE GRANTING OF THE SGLG, THERE SHALL BE FOUR (4) COMMITTEES TO BE FORMED WITHIN THE COUNCIL TO CORRESPOND WITH EACH OF THE DIMENSIONS OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MERITOCRACY CRITERIA, AS ENUMERATED UNDER SECTION 7 HEREOF AS FOLLOWS:

1. **COMMITTEE ON HEALTH – TO BE CHAIRED BY THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH) TO BE SUPPORTED BY THE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCILS AND LOCAL HEALTH BOARDS;**
2. **COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION – TO BE CHAIRED BY THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED) AND CO-CHAIRLED BY THE COMMISSION ON**

HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED) TO BE SUPPORTED BY THE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCILS AND THE LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS;

3. COMMITTEE ON PEACE AND ORDER AND PUBLIC SAFETY – TO BE CHAIRED BY SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO BE SUPPORTED BY THE NATIONAL PEACE AND ORDER COUNCIL AND THE PEACE AND ORDER COUNCILS AT THE REGIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS;

4. COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF LIVING – TO BE CHAIRED BY THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (NEDA) TO BE SUPPORTED BY THE REGIONAL AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCILS.

THE COUNCIL SHALL DESIGNATE EACH COUNCIL MEMBER TO BE PART OF THE PROPER COMMITTEE TO COINCIDE WITH ITS OFFICIAL MANDATE OR FUNCTION.

SEC 4. Section 5 of Republic Act No. 11292 is hereby amended to read as follows:
“Section 5. Powers and Functions of the Council. -The Council shall act as policy-making and advisory body to ensure the proper implementation of the SGLG. It shall perform the following powers and functions:

a) Develop and promulgate the performance indicators that shall serve as standards for evaluating the LGUs’ compliance and/or satisfaction of each of the criteria prescribed above **AND BE IN CHARGE OF DATA COLLECTION, INTEGRATION AND PROCESSING STANDARDS FOR THIS MEASURE AND SUPPORT THE LGUS BY PROVIDING ANY DATA THEY NEED TO REGULARLY UPDATE THEIR DIMENSIONS UNDER THE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MERITOCRACY CRITERIA:** *Provided,* That the Council shall designate each Council member to lead the development of performance indicators in his/her area of jurisdiction or expertise and recommend the approval of such performance indicators by the Council: *Provided,* further, That in the development and approval of the performance indicators, the Council shall take into consideration that LGUs may not be similarly situated and that one (1) or more indicators may be peculiarly inapplicable or extremely difficult to meet given the inherent limitations or circumstances of the LGUs; **AND PROVIDED FINALLY, THAT THE COUNCIL SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE OF EACH LEVEL OF LGU VIS-À-VIS THEIR OWN RESPECTIVE HISTORICAL PERFORMANCES BASED ON THE STANDARDS FOR EVALUATING EACH DIMENSION UNDER**

THE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MERITOCRACY CRITERIA AS DEFINED UNDER SECTION 7 OF THIS ACT.

- b) Review and/or revise the performance indicators consistent with the long-term development plans of the National Government. The development of indicators should reflect **DEVELOPMENT** outcomes that are performance-based, encouraging outputs that reflect concrete benefits to the community in terms of policy, rules, regulations, behavior, skill competencies, knowledge, or attitude
- c) Conduct an **IMPACT** evaluation ~~of the impact~~ of this Act on the performance of the LGUs for purposes of determining the need for enhancing or continuing the SGLG, rolling out the SGLG in barangays **AND IN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES (NGAs)** and recommending any amendatory legislation. For this purpose, the Council shall institute an effective feedback mechanism where the concerns of LGUs and other stakeholders on the implementation of the SGLG are appropriately considered;
- d) Create technical working groups, upon the recommendation of the Council member concerned, composed of experts from government agencies, representatives from the leagues of provinces, cities and municipalities, **BARANGAYS**, and other sectors, to assist the Council members in the performance of their respective functions as provided for in paragraph (a) of this section;
- e) Submit to the President of the Philippines, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, on an annual basis, copies of the performance indicators approved by the Council together with the performance indicators developed and recommended by the lead Council member, and the result of the impact assessment conducted pursuant to paragraph (c) of this section; and
- f) Perform such other functions as are necessary or incidental to properly carry out the purposes of this Act.

SEC 5. Section 6 of Republic Act No. 11292 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 6. Implementing Agency. -The **DILG AND THE PSA** shall be the **JOINT** implementing agency **AGENCIES** of this Act. ~~It~~ **THEY** shall, through **THEIR** ~~its~~ relevant bureaus and offices, and in consultation and coordination with partner agencies or sectors, **THE RESPECTIVE LEAGUES OF LGUs AND LOCAL OFFICIALS, AND CONCERNED**

LGUs, be responsible for the assessment and evaluation of each LGU relative to its compliance with the criteria, and SHALL recommend to the Council whether an LGU qualifies to be conferred or awarded the SGLG OR OTHER APPROPRIATE ACTION AS MAY BE ALLOWED IN THIS ACT.

The DILG shall call on any other concerned agencies, civil society organizations (CSOs), or **THE PRIVATE** sectors, as it may deem necessary, to assist in carrying out its responsibilities under this Act.

- (A) **THE DILG AND/OR PSA MAY, INDIVIDUALLY OR JOINTLY, CALL ON ANY OTHER CONCERNED AGENCIES AND INSTRUMENTALITIES, LGU LEAGUES, CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS (CSOS), SECTORS, OR OTHER BODIES, AS IT MAY DEEM NECESSARY, TO ASSIST IN CARRYING OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THIS ACT.**
- (B) **THE PSA WILL SERVE AS THE PRIMARY DATA CUSTODIAN AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL. IT WILL BE IN CHARGE OF SETTING UP A DATA REPOSITORY THAT WILL BE MADE ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE DATA PRIVACY ACT.**
- (C) **THE DILG, IN COORDINATION WITH PSA, SHALL RECOGNIZE WELL-PERFORMING LGUS AND PROVIDE FINANCIAL INCENTIVES TO THE BEST PERFORMING LGUS OR ENFORCE THE APPROPRIATE MEASURES, AS PROVIDED IN THIS ACT; PROVIDED IT CONFORMS TO THE PRINCIPLE OF SUBSIDIARITY AS GUARANTEED UNDER SEC. 4, ARTICLE X OF THE 1987 CONSTITUTION.**
- (D) **THE PSA SHALL FINALIZE THE DATA COLLECTION, INTEGRATION, AND PROCESSING STANDARDS THAT WILL BE SHARED WITH AND USED BY THE LGUS.**

THE DILG, IN COORDINATION WITH THE PSA, SHALL BE IN CHARGE OF PROVIDING CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAINING SESSIONS FOR LGUS IN VIEW OF FULFILLING THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THIS MEASURE.

SEC 6. Section 7 of Republic Act No. 11292 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 7. Criteria.— For the purpose of this Act, **THERE WILL BE TWO CRITERIA CATEGORIES FOCUSED ON DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF LOCAL GOVERNANCE. THE FIRST CRITERIA CATEGORY SHALL BE KNOWN AS “GOVERNANCE CRITERIA” THAT WILL FOCUS ON PROCESSES AND INPUTS FOR STRENGTHENING LOCAL GOVERNANCE. THE SECOND CRITERIA CATEGORY SHALL BE CALLED “HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MERITOCRACY CRITERIA” AND WILL FOCUS ON GAUGING DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES THAT AN LGU IS EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE.** The areas **DIMENSIONS** in the **EACH** criteria **CATEGORY** shall be understood and interpreted as follows:

(1) GOVERNANCE CRITERIA

- (a) **Good Fiscal or Financial Administration or Financial Sustainability** – This refers to the condition where an LGU demonstrates positive and stable economic performance, and maintains, preserves and

mandatorily upholds the practice of fiscal discipline, accountability and transparency by adhering to budgetary rules, public financial management, generally accepted and recognized accounting and auditing standards and full disclosure policy. Indicators shall include: (1) the issuance of an unqualified or qualified opinion on the financial statements of an LGU by the Commission on Audit (COA) in the immediately preceding year; (2) full, strict, and exacting compliance with the Full Disclosure Policy (FDP) of local budget and finances, bids and public offerings; and (3) posting of financial documents required to be posted in the FDP portal in the local government's website.

(b) Disaster Preparedness – This refers to an LGU's preparedness for any disaster or natural or man-made calamity, by adopting relevant plans, taking proactive actions, and building its capacity to respond effectively to emergencies when needed. Indicators shall include: (1) having structures, plans and systems in place for disaster preparedness; (2) availability of a Provincial Development and Physical Framework Plan/Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) Plan, Contingency Plan, and Local Climate Change Action Plan; (3) availability of working early warning and evacuation alert systems, evacuation centers, standard operating procedures in the event of disaster or calamity, emergency transportation facilities, relief operation equipment and tools, medical services, registration and security; and (4) being an awardee of the National Gawad KALASAG for Best Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council.

(c) Social Protection and Sensitivity Program – This refers to an LGU's sensitivity and responsiveness to the needs of its constituents, recognizing and upholding the rights and privileges particularly those belonging to the vulnerable or disadvantaged sectors, such as, but not limited to, women, children, indigenous people, elderly, persons with disability (PWD), and informal settlers. Indicators shall include: (1) providing access to justice, particularly in cases of violence against women and children; (2) providing access for PWDs, senior citizens and pregnant women in frontline services; (3) enhancing mobility for PWDs in public infrastructure like local government center and hospitals in accordance with the Accessibility Law; (4) mandatory representation of indigenous people in compliance with the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act of 1997; (5) compliance with the mandatory representation in the sanggunian with representative accorded with regular privileges and emoluments of a sanggunian member; (6) presence of at least one (1) accredited LGU-managed residential care facility for the vulnerable sectors; and (7) representation from NGOs in the local development council and other special bodies consistent with the pertinent provisions of the Local Government Code.

(d) *Health Compliance and Responsiveness* – This refers to the LGU's capability to effectively implement and deliver health services and information systems as well as pursue evidenced-based health

promotion and protection policies scientifically proven and accepted to advance population health and individual well-being, reduce the prevalence of non-communicable diseases and its risk factors, lower the incidence of new infectious diseases, address mental health issues and improve health status throughout the life course. Indicators shall include: (1) ensuring access to nutritious, safe and affordable food; (2) regularly conducting physical activities in communities and schools; (3) strict enforcement of laws and ordinances that regulate tobacco sale and use, harmful alcohol consumption, and use of illicit drugs; (4) providing access to safe water and sanitation; (5) implementing immunization programs; (6) ensuring access to primary health care including prevention programs for hypertension, diabetes and cancer; and (7) establishing local surveillance and epidemiology systems to monitor health service delivery.

(e) *Programs for Sustainable Education* – This refers to the initiatives of an LGU to institute education reforms and programs, provide equal access to quality education, promote lifelong learning opportunities for all, foster sports development and instill leadership and patriotism among the youth, as demonstrated by positive changes in the behavior and performance of individual citizens and the community as a whole. Indicators shall include positive results produced by Local School Board Policies and Programs, such as: (1) increased participation rate of students; (2) decreased number of drop-outs as well as out-of-school youths; (3) increase in cohort survival rates; (4) increase in achievement scores as measured by the national tests or assessment tools; and (5) establishment of child development centers, support to special education and the alternative learning system and parent effectiveness service program.

(f) *Business Friendliness and Competitiveness* – This refers to an LGU's unconventional initiative in encouraging local investment, together with local business enterprises and the working sector, through the adoption of policies, programs, systems, structures and/or local legislation that attract and create investment opportunities, and promote a business climate conducive to sustainable business growth. Indicators shall include: (1) adoption of simplified business processing and licensing system; (2) tracking of economic data of the locality and the sharing of the same with investors; (3) designation of a local economic investment promotion officer or its equivalent; (4) existence of an updated Citizen's Charter; (5) adoption and maintenance of an updated Local Investment Incentive Code; and (6) good performance in business promotion as shown by the result of Business Friendliness or Competitiveness Assessment by the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry or the National Competitiveness Council.

(g) *Safety, Peace and Order* – This refers to a condition where an LGU establishes good and respectable performance in terms of maintaining peace and order in the community as demonstrated by reduced crime rate, effective anti-illegal drugs campaign, and efficient traffic

management, among others, through the implementation of activities, programs and policies, and the appropriate provision of support mechanisms to ensure the safety and protection of its constituencies from injuries and unnecessary threats to life, security and property. Indicators shall include: (1) adopting a Local Anti-Criminality Action Plan or Peace and Order and Public Safety Plan; (2) providing logistical or financial support to the local police; (3) convening regularly the local Peace and Order Council; (4) establishing a functional local Anti-Drug Abuse Council; and (5) establishing and implementing a community-oriented policing mechanism.

(h) *Environmental Management* – This refers to an LGU's initiative to institute policies and programs that consistently and significantly preserves and protects the integrity of the environment with primary focus on solid waste management and ecological balance, as well as mitigation and adaptation to climate change. Indicators shall include: (1) advancing local policy and programs of action on Environmental Impact Assessment; (2) promoting social awareness and social responsibility programs; (3) managing and maintaining ecological balance within their territorial jurisdiction; (4) complying with at least the minimum standards set by the provisions of the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000; (5) establishing a material recovery-facility or an existing partnership with an entity with facilities that may be used for such purpose; (6) having access to a sanitary landfill or alternative technology; (7) maintaining an organized local Solid Waste Management Board; and (8) instituting policies, programs, systems, structures and/or local legislation in order to support and promote environmental protection in all levels of human transaction.

(i) *Tourism, Heritage Development, Culture and Arts* – This refers to an LGU's ability to promote and protect Philippine identity through local heritage and culture, or local legacy, in terms of preserving the cultural, historical and indigenous significance of the community, marketing the characteristics which the LGU is known or recognized for, and attracting foreign and local visitors and tourists to the locality. Indicators shall include: (1) the presence of a Local Tourism Officer or designated officer; (2) the establishment of a Tourist Information and Assistance Center; (3) the establishment of a tracking system of tourism data; (4) the presence of a local council for the promotion of culture and the arts; (5) the approval and implementation of a budget appropriated for the conservation and preservation of cultural property; and (6) existence of an updated cultural property inventory in the LGU.

(j) *Youth Development* – This refers to an LGU's ability to promote and establish adequate, effective, responsive and enabling mechanisms and support systems that will ensure the meaningful participation of the youth in local governance and nation-building. Indicators shall include: (1) adopting a local youth development program; (2) establishing a local youth development council; (3) providing a youth development office which shall be headed by a youth development officer; and (4) instituting

policies, programs and systems in order to support and promote the vital role of youth in local governance.

(2) HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MERITOCRACY CRITERIA

(A) HEALTH AND SOCIAL DIMENSION – THIS DIMENSION MEASURES THE OVERALL QUALITY OF HEALTH WITHIN A LOCALITY THROUGH THE LONGEVITY OF LIFE OF ITS CONSTITUENTS.

(B) EDUCATION – THIS DIMENSION MEASURES THE ACCESS TO QUALITY OF EDUCATION OF A LOCALITY'S CONSTITUENTS.

(C) STANDARD OF LIVING – THIS DIMENSION MEASURES THE LEVEL OF INCOME OF CONSTITUENTS AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN A LOCALITY.

(D) PEACE AND ORDER & PUBLIC SAFETY – THIS DIMENSION MEASURES THE PREVALENCE OF CRIME WITHIN A LOCALITY.

EACH DIMENSION UNDER THE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MERITOCRACY CRITERIA SHALL BE MEASURED USING A SET OF INDICATORS. THE SET OF INDICATORS FOR EACH DIMENSION SHALL BE FORMULATED AND DETERMINED BY THE CONCERNED COMMITTEE AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL BASED ON ACCEPTABLE STANDARDS USED NATIONALLY OR INTERNATIONALLY, TOGETHER WITH THE DATA IN THE PHILIPPINE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT (PHDR). IN DETERMINING SUCH, THE COUNCIL SHALL PRIORITIZE INDICATORS THAT MAY BE RETRIEVED FROM NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT SOURCES WITHOUT THE NEED FOR PRIMARY DATA GATHERING METHODOLOGIES SUCH AS STATISTICAL SURVEYS, CENSUS, AND REGISTERS.

THE SET OF INDICATORS FOR EACH DIMENSION SHALL BE USED TO COMPUTE FOR THE QUALIFICATIONS OF EACH LGU AND ASSESSED BASED ON THEIR RESPECTIVE HISTORICAL GROWTH OR PERFORMANCE SO THAT EACH LEVEL OF LGU COMPETES AGAINST ITSELF AND NOT AS AGAINST OTHER LGUS.

THE PERFORMANCE OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS AS DESIGNATED UNDER LAW SHALL ALSO BE MEASURED USING THE DIMENSIONS UNDER THIS SECTION. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS, HOWEVER, SHALL NOT BE SUBJECT TO ASSESSMENT AND INCENTIVES AS STIPULATED UNDER THIS ACT.

THE COUNCIL SHALL CONTINUOUSLY EXPLORE ALTERNATIVE STATISTICAL INDICATORS FOR THE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MERITOCRACY CRITERIA, AS MAY BE NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE FOR PURPOSES OF FASTER DATA COLLECTION AND PROCESSING. THESE INDICATORS SHALL BE UPDATED ANNUALLY BY THE

CONCERNED AGENCY AND SHARED WITH THE CONCERNED LGUS TO ENSURE THAT THE DATA EFFECTIVELY REFLECTS THE KEY DIMENSIONS OF THE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MERITOCRACY CRITERIA AS STIPULATED UNDER THIS ACT AND ARE MORE READILY TRANSPARENT AND ACCESSIBLE FOR EFFICIENT COLLECTION AND PROCESSING OF THE LGUS AND IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES.

The foregoing criteria may be expanded by the Council to align with the thrusts of the National Government and attune them with the changing times.

SEC 7. Two new sections denominated as Section 7-A and Section 7-B respectively are inserted after Section 7 of Republic Act No. 11292 to read as follows:

SEC. 7-A. DATA COLLECTION. – LGUS SHALL BE DESIGNATED AS THE PRIMARY DATA COLLECTING AGENCY WITHIN THEIR RESPECTIVE LOCALITIES.

FOR PURPOSES OF THIS ACT, LGUS MAY OPT TO HIRE THE NECESSARY PERSONNEL, SUCH AS STATISTICIANS AND OTHERS, THE NUMBER AND POSITIONS OF WHICH SHALL BE DETERMINED BY THE COUNCIL THROUGH THE REVISED IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS (RIRR) TO BE ISSUED THEREFOR.

CONSISTENT WITH SECTION 7 OF THIS ACT, DATA THAT MAY BE ACCESSED WITHOUT THE NEED FOR PRIMARY DATA GATHERING METHODOLOGIES AS DESCRIBED ABOVE SHALL BE PRIORITIZED.

SEC. 7-B. PERIODICITY OF DATA COLLECTION. – FOR THE “HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MERITOCRACY CRITERIA” UNDER SECTION 7 OF THIS ACT, REGULAR AND SYNCHRONIZED DATA COLLECTION SHALL BE CONDUCTED BY LGUS ANNUALLY OR ON SHORTER PERIODS BASED ON THE LATEST AVAILABILITY OF IDENTIFIED INDICATORS. IN THE CONDUCT OF DATA COLLECTION, LGUS SHALL RECEIVE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE APPROPRIATE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, AS NEEDED.

TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, LGUS ARE EXPECTED TO MONITOR INDICATORS AT SHORTER INTERVALS AS IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT BECOMES MUCH MORE ESTABLISHED.

SEC 8. Section 8 of Republic Act No. 11292 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 8. *Requisites to Qualify for SGLG.* - An LGU, which, according to the assessment of the DILG, complies, qualifies, and passes all assessment criteria as provided in Section 7 of this Act, **AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL**, shall be conferred and awarded the SGLG and granted the

corresponding **RECOGNITION, AWARDS AND MONETARY** incentives as provided under Section 11 of this Act. **IN ASSESSING AN LGU'S QUALIFICATION FOR THE SGLG, GREATER CONSIDERATION SHALL BE GIVEN TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT'S COMPLIANCE WITH THE "HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MERITOCRACY CRITERIA" AS ENUMERATED UNDER SECTION 7 OF THIS ACT. 70% OF ANY NUMERICAL ASSESSMENT WEIGHT SHALL BE ASSIGNED TO THE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MERITOCRACY CRITERIA WHILE 30% SHALL BE FOR THE GOVERNANCE CRITERIA.**

SEC 9. Section 11 of Republic Act No. 11292 is hereby amended to read as follows

Section 11. ~~The SGLG Incentives Fund.~~ -There is hereby created a special account under the General Appropriations Act (GAA) called the "SGLG Fund". The Fund shall be utilized only to pay out the incentives granted to LGUs which qualify for the SGLG.

The Council established under Section 4 of this Act shall have the authority to determine the monetary incentives for LGUs based on the number of awardees. It shall also have the authority to re-evaluate and increase the amount of SGLG incentives to be awarded to LGUs; *Provided, That,* the increase shall be subject to the sufficiency of the Fund at the time the increment is implemented.

MONETARY INCENTIVES FOR LGUS UNDER THIS ACT MAY ALSO BE SOURCED FROM THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FUND (LGSF) UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET & MANAGEMENT AND OTHER FUND ASSISTANCE TO LGUS UNDER THE DILG OR OTHER AGENCIES.

RECOGNITION OF LGUS FOR THE SGLG WILL BE CONDUCTED AT LEAST ANNUALLY. QUARTERLY OR BI-ANNUAL RECOGNITIONS ARE ALSO EXPECTED TO BE EXPLORED AS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEASURE BECOMES MUCH MORE ESTABLISHED.

LGUS EXPERIENCING PERSISTENT AND UNJUSTIFIABLE DECLINES IN THE INDICATORS TO BE IDENTIFIED UNDER THE "HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MERITOCRACY CRITERIA" UNDER SECTION 7 OF THIS ACT MAY BE DISINCENTIVISED, IN THE FORM OF LOWER OR ZERO INCENTIVES. PROVIDED HOWEVER, THAT THESE DECLINES ARE NOT DUE TO EXTERNAL SHOCKS, SUCH AS NATURAL CALAMITIES, PANDEMICS, OR UNFORESEEABLE EVENTS BEYOND THE CONTROL OF THE LGUS; AND PROVIDED FURTHER, THAT THE SPECIFIC BENCHMARKS OR STANDARDS PERTAINING TO THE QUALIFYING PERCENTAGE DECREASE AND THE SUPPLEMENTARY CRITERIA WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE COUNCIL.

SEC. 10. Section 12 of Republic Act No. 11292 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 12. *Utilization and Limitations on Expenditures of the Incentives Under the SGLG Fund.* -The use of the incentives paid out of the SGLG

Fund -shall be governed by the policies governing the utilization of the twenty percent (20%) of the annual ~~Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA)~~ **NATIONAL TAX ALLOTMENT (NTA)** for local development projects, the Annual Investment Program (AIP) and the Local Development Investment Program (LDIP).

The **MONETARY** incentives paid out of the SGLG Fund shall not be used for any of the following:

- (a) Financing micro credits and loans;
- (b) Travel expenses, whether domestic or foreign, except when the purpose is in furtherance of the purposes of this Act;
- (c) Administrative expenses of the LGU including, but not limited to, cash gifts, bonuses, food allowances, staff uniforms, communication bills, utilities, transportation costs and the like;
- (d) Purchase, maintenance or repair of any motor vehicles or motorcycles not directly used for the SGLG undertaking;
- (e) Salaries, wages, emoluments, per diems or overtime pay of employees;
- (f) Construction, repair, or refurbishing of administrative offices; and
- (g) Loan guarantee.

SEC 11. Section 14 of Republic Act No. 11292 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 14. Management and Administration of the SGLG Fund. – The SGLG Fund established under Section 11 of this Act shall be managed and administered by the DILG with the supervision of the Council. Appropriation to replenish the amount paid out from the Fund during the year and/or to augment the Fund shall be proposed by **THE COUNCIL** and **ANNUALLY** included in the budget of the DILG under the GAA.

SEC 12. Section 15 of Republic Act No. 11292 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 15. Guarantee of Local Government Autonomy. – The **LOCAL AND FISCAL** autonomy of LGUs, **AS GUARANTEED UNDER THE 1987 CONSTITUTION**, shall be respected at all times. Nothing in this Act shall be interpreted as limiting the autonomy of LGUs to establish policies and pursue programs and projects designed not only to qualify for the LGMS award but also to ensure the enjoyment of their constituency the right to life, liberty, property, health, education, balanced and healthful ecology, among others, in the exercise of their POLICE power under the general welfare clause. **THE CONSTITUTIONAL MANDATE ON SUBSIDIARITY PURSUANT TO THE PRESIDENT'S POWER OF SUPERVISION OVER LGUS SHALL BE RESPECTED AT ALL TIMES.**

SEC 13. Section 16 of Republic Act No. 11292 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 16. *SGLG Operating Fund.* - The activities and operational expenses, other than the incentive payouts, related to the implementation of this Act shall be initially funded from the DILG's Performance Challenge Fund. Thereafter, the DILG shall include in its annual budget to be incorporated in the GAA, the item for the SGLG operating fund in the amount equivalent to **NOT LESS THAN FIVE** ~~two percent (2%)~~ **(5%)** of the SGLG Fund.

SEC 14. Data Privacy. – This data collection system shall respect the fundamental human right of privacy, ensure data quality, and uphold data protection principles of legitimate purpose, transparency, and proportionality.

SEC 15. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the members of the Council led by the PSA and the DILG, **TOGETHER WITH THE UNION OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES OF THE PHILIPPINES (ULAP) AND THE LEAGUES OF LGUS AND LOCAL OFFICIALS**, shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC 16. Separability Clause. – If any provision or part of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

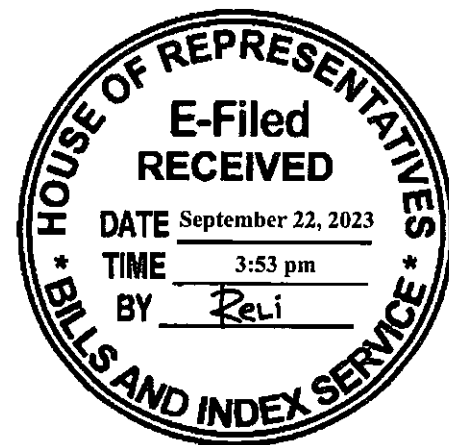
SEC 17. Repealing Clause. – Any law, presidential decree, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SEC 18. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9288



Introduced by **HON. EDGAR M. CHATTO**
First District, Bohol

EXPLANATORY NOTE

World Risk Index gave the Philippines an index score of 46.86 making it the number one most-disaster prone country in the world because of high risk, exposure, and vulnerability.¹ Further, according to the Global Risks Report 2023 by the World Economic Forum, the top five (5) risks that the Philippines faced are (1) the natural disasters and extreme weather events; (2) debt crisis; (3) rapid and sustained inflation; (4) misinformation; and (5) geopolitical contestation of resources.²

Furthermore, geographical location and physical characteristics of the Philippines contribute to its exposure to disasters. Annually, an average of twenty (20) typhoons enter the Philippine area of responsibility with the most intense between July and October. The rains brought about by typhoons and the monsoon causes severe flooding, which is another hazard the country is facing.³ The main reason for these disasters is the climate change wherein the impacts are immense.

In the Province of Bohol, there has been an increasing frequency and intensity of El Niño and La Niña which affect the agriculture sector, the degradation of marine environment, and the trees are uncontrollably being cut in upland communities that increase the risk of soil erosion.⁴ Moreover, there is the reported unusual rise in sea levels that impact the lives, livelihood, and the future of their island residents.

In the islands off the towns of Calape, Tubigon, and other islands, sea levels have risen during high tides that have been recorded to reach nearly a meter from the usual tide marks a decade ago.⁵

¹ [https://www.preventionweb.net/news/vulnerable-philippines-working-towards-climate-adaptation#:~:text=The%20WRI%20report%20gave%20the,\(Dela%20Pena%2C%202023\).](https://www.preventionweb.net/news/vulnerable-philippines-working-towards-climate-adaptation#:~:text=The%20WRI%20report%20gave%20the,(Dela%20Pena%2C%202023).)

² https://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_Global_Risks_Report_2023.pdf

³ <https://www.apn-gcr.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/4de42b9c9358d1d886fbo141319f342d.pdf>

⁴ https://ppdo.bohol.gov.ph/BIAD_Proposals/BIAD3/BIAD%203%20Disaster%20Risk%20Management%20PProject.pdf

⁵ <https://pia.gov.ph/news/2021/07/20/chatto-to-bohol-igus-declare-climate-change-emergency>

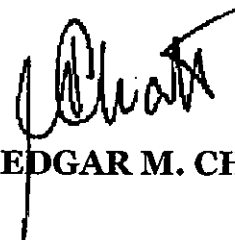
Because the impacts of climate change are getting worse, the Province of Bohol have passed Provincial Ordinance No. 2023-010 creating the Committee on Climate Change as a regular standing committee of the *Sangguniang Panlalawigan*.

The local government units (LGUs) play a major role in promoting climate change adaptation, which must be considered an integral element of development and poverty reduction efforts. As such, LGUs must take proactive measures to assist people in coping with the impacts of climate change.

In this regard, this bill is timely which seeks the creation of a standing Committee on Climate Change in every LGU, thus, amending Section 50 (b) (1) of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991". This Committee is mandated, among others, to propose ordinances or resolutions which will address specific environmental concerns of the concerned LGU, recommend annual budgetary allocations on plans, projects, and activities for the protection and preservation of the environment, and coordinate with relevant government agencies, non-government organizations, civil society organizations, academe, and private sectors on environmental plans, projects, and programs.

Considering that the impacts of climate change are mostly felt at the local level, the creation of this Committee in every LGU will lead to effective adaptation solutions tailored to a specific location. Additionally, there is a need to entrench local knowledge on adaptation measures and disaster risk reduction programs to make them more comprehensive and accurate to the needs of the LGUs.

In light of the foregoing considerations, the passage of this bill is immediately sought.



REP. EDGAR M. CHATTO

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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9288

Introduced by **HON. EDGAR M. CHATTO**
First District, Bohol

**“AN ACT
MANDATING THE CREATION OF A COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE
FOR EVERY SANGGUNIAN”**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Committee on Climate Change”.

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is declared the policy of the State to protect and advance the right of every Filipino to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature. Considering the importance of sectoral concerns in local legislations, the State shall mandate each local government unit to create a localized Committee on Climate Change which will address legislation related to the restoration and rehabilitation of ecosystems, environmental protection concerns, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and disaster risk reduction programs.

SEC. 3. *Scope.* – All matters directly and principally relating to policies, programs, strategies, practices, technologies, and innovation addressing climate change causes and impacts, including but not limited, to avoidance and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, climate risk management to enhance adaptive capacity and reduce vulnerability to climate risks, all matters relating to adaptation and mitigation to enhance resilience, promotion of sustainable development including disciplines like disaster management, disaster mitigation, disaster risk reduction and disaster preparedness in the province, city, or municipality, and related issues and concerns, shall be within the scope of the Committee on Climate Change.

SEC. 4. *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act:

- a. *Adaptation* refers to the adjustment in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities;

- b. *Climate Change* refers to a change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods;
- c. *Disaster risk reduction* refers to refers to the concept and practice of reducing disaster risks through systematic efforts to analyze and manage the causal factors of disasters, through reduced exposure to hazards, lessened vulnerability of people and property, wise management of land and the environment, and improved preparedness for adverse events;
- d. *Mitigation*, in the context of climate change, refers to human intervention to address anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all greenhouse gases, including ozone-depleting substances and their substitutes.

SEC. 5. *Creation and Composition of the Committee.* – In addition to the standing committees provided in Section 50 (b) (1) of Republic Act No. 7160, or the “Local Government Code of 1991, a Committee on Climate Change, which shall be an independent committee, shall be established in every province, city, or municipality.

The Committee on Climate Change shall be composed of one (1) chairperson, one (1) vice-chairperson, and at least one (1) member. The chairperson and vice chairperson shall be elected by a majority votes of the members.

SEC. 6. *Powers and Functions of the Committee.* – The Committee on Climate Change shall exercise and perform the following powers and functions:

- a. Propose ordinances or resolutions which address specific environmental concerns of the province, city, or municipality, including but not limited to climate change mitigation and adaptation, climate risks, effects of extreme weather, and disaster risk reduction;
- b. Recommend to the *Sanggunian* concerned annual budgetary allocations and plans, projects, and activities for the protection and preservation of the environment and all matter concerning, but not limited to, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and disaster risk reduction; and
- c. Coordinate with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and other relevant government agencies, non-government organizations, civil society organizations, academe, and private sectors on environmental plans, projects, and programs.

Such other powers and functions as may be necessary and incidental for the performance of their mandate.

SEC. 7. *Meetings and Quorum.* – In accordance with Sections 52 and 53 of R.A. No. 7160, the Committee shall meet at least once a week or as often as may be necessary. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum.

SEC. 8. *Compensation and Remuneration* – The chairman, vice- chairman, and members of the provincial, city or municipal Committee on Climate Change shall perform their duties without additional compensation or remuneration.

SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any of the sections or provisions of this Act is held invalid, all other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid.

SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.* – All other laws, decrees, orders, resolutions, instructions, rules and regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 11. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8900



Introduced by Representative Ivan Howard A. Guintu

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The United Nations (UN) recognizes the looming effects of rapid urbanization. Eleventh in the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is Sustainable Cities and Communities. This goal aims to “make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.” Among the targets this goal aspires to achieve by 2030 are the following:

Provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport;

Enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated, and sustainable human settlement planning and management;

Provide universal access to safe, inclusive, and accessible green and public spaces; and

Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, per-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning.

According to the UN, over half of the global population currently resides in urban areas. Of this, approximately 1.1 billion people are currently living in slums or slum-like conditions in cities, with an additional two billion people more expected in the next 30 years.

Globally, three out of every four cities have less than 20% of their areas dedicated to public spaces and streets. The supposed target of 45-50% dedicated for public spaces and streets are not met. Consequently, this has brought about worsened air pollution, inadequate infrastructure and services, and an unplanned urban sprawl.

In the Philippine context, 58.93 million or 54% of the country’s total 109.03 million population are living in urban barangays, according to the 2020 census of population of the

Philippine Statistics Authority. UN Habitats estimates that 84% of Filipinos are expected to reside in urban areas by 2050.

The adverse effects of rapid urbanization are already being felt in the Philippines. Uncollected solid wastes go into river systems and esteros and clog waterways, which causes extreme flooding events especially during massive typhoons. Water quality has also deteriorated, and air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions have increased. Furthermore, the increase of population and the lack of housing settlements in metropolitan cities have resulted in informal settlers residing in make-shift settlements in unsafe and inhabitable areas. Unfortunately, these people are the ones most susceptible to the effects of extreme natural calamities.

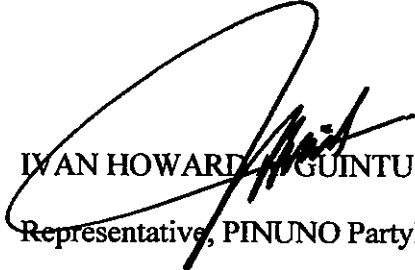
In its 2014 report with the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA), the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) said the Philippines the country suffered at least ₱2.4 billion losses daily due to traffic congestion in Metro Manila and is projected to lose ₱5.4 billion a day due in 2035 if the problem remains unsolved.

According to a study made by Prof. Primitivo Cal of the UP National Center for Transportation Studies, the ongoing traffic crisis and transport problem in Metro Manila can be traced to five significant factors related to rapid urbanization and slow development of public transportation in the country: rapid urbanization, mono-centric urban form, limited mass rail transit network, and low ratio of road length to motorization. Professor Cal noted that reducing the concentration of trips in space by boosting the capacity of public transport and expanding the network of highways are a must as part of the long-term solution to the traffic problem.

This measure proposes to create an Urban Planning and Development (UPD) Office in every city and municipality which shall be headed by an Urban Planning and Development Officer. The UPD shall create a comprehensive 10-year urban master plan which shall be consulted first with the stakeholders, then shall be approved by the Sanggunian and shall be reviewed every five years and updated every ten 10 years.

In anticipation of the estimated 84% of Filipinos that are expected to reside in urban areas by 2050, cities and municipalities should be guided and prepared for rapid urbanization.

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


IVAN HOWARD AGUINTU
Representative, PINUNO Partylist

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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8930

Introduced by Representative Ivan Howard A. Guintu

AN ACT
CREATING A LOCAL URBAN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE IN
EVERY CITY AND MUNICIPALITY

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the “Local Urban Planning and Development Office Act of 2023.”

SEC. 2. *Creation of Urban Planning and Development Office.* - There shall be a mandatory establishment of an Urban Planning and Development (UPD) Office in every city and municipality, which shall be headed by the UPD Officer.

SEC. 3. Section 443 of Republic Act No. 7160, as amended, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991 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 URBAN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER.

x x x”

SEC. 4. Section 454 of the Local Government Code of 1991, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 454. Officials of the City Government. –

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 URBAN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER.”

SEC. 5. A new section to be denominated as Section 490-A, Article XXI is hereby inserted between Title V and Title VI after Section 490, Article XX of the Local Government Code of 1991, as amended, to read as follows:

“ARTICLE XXI
THE URBAN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

SEC. 490-A. APPOINTMENT, QUALIFICATIONS, POWERS, AND DUTIES. –

- (A) NO PERSON SHALL BE APPOINT AS URBAN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER UNLESS SUCH PERSON IS A CITIZEN OF THE PHILIPPINES, A RESIDENT OF THE MUNICIPALITY OR CITY AS THE CASE MAY BE, OF GOOD MORAL CHARACTER, A HOLDER OF A COLLEGE DEGREE PREFERABLY IN URBAN PLANNING, A FIRST-GRADE CIVIL SERVICE ELIGIBLE OR ITS EQUIVALENT, AND MUST HAVE ACQUIRED EXPERIENCE IN URBAN PLANNING FOR AT LEAST FIVE (5) YEARS IN THE CASE OF THE CITY URBAN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER AND THREE (3) YEARS IN THE CASE OF THE MUNICIPAL URBAN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER, IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE DATE OF THE APPOINTMENT
- (B) THE URBAN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER SHALL TAKE CHARGE OF THE URBAN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, AND SHALL:
- (1) CREATE A COMPREHENSIVE TEN (10)-YEAR URBAN MASTER PLAN WHICH SHALL BE APPROVED BY THE SANGGUNIANG AND SHALL BE REVIEWED EVERY FIVE (5) YEARS AND UPDATED EVERY TEN (10) YEARS. THE OLD URBAN MASTER PLAN SHALL CONTINUE TO BE IMPLEMENTED UNTIL A NEW URBAN MASTER PLAN IS APPROVED BY THE SANGGUNIANG.
 - (2) FORMULATE THE COMPREHENSIVE URBAN MASTER PLAN AND POLICIES OF THE CITY OR MUNICIPALITY AS AN INPUT TO THE CITY/MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR CONSIDERATION

OF THE SANGGUNIAN. THE URBAN MASTER PLAN SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- (i) LAND USE;
 - (ii) AGRI-ECOTOURISM PROMOTION AND MANAGEMENT;
 - (iii) PROMOTION AND INCLUSION OF URBAN GREEN SPACES IN URBAN PROJECTS;
 - (iv) TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT IN IDENTIFIED HIGHLY-DENSE AREAS IN THE CITY OR MUNICIPALITY;
 - (v) ROAD NETWORKING AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT, AND THE INTEGRATION OF BIKE LANES AND SAFE PEDESTRIAN LANES;
 - (vi) ACCESSIBILITY TO BASIC GOVERNMENT SERVICES, HEALTHCARE FACILITIES, SCHOOLS, RECREATIONAL SPACES, AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES;
 - (vii) PRESERVATION OF HERITAGE ZONES, ESTABLISHED HISTORICAL SITES, MONUMENTS, AND LANDMARKS IN THE CITY OR MUNICIPALITY;
 - (viii) URBAN HOUSING FACILITIES AND SERVICES, INCLUDING SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT, SEWERAGE SYSTEMS, DISASTER RISK REDUCTION, INTEGRATED FLOOD CONTROL AND CLIMATE CHANGE PROOFING, DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY, AND WATER AND ENERGY;
 - (ix) DEVELOPMENT OF CLIMATE-RESILIENT AND DISASTER-RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS;
- (3) UNDERTAKE CONTINUING STUDIES, RESEARCHES, AND TRAININGS NECESSARY TO EVOLVE URBAN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS FOR THE CITY OR MUNICIPALITY;
- (4) COORDINATE WITH DIFFERENT FUNCTIONAL GROUPS AND AGENCIES FOR INTEGRATION OF THE URBAN MASTER PLAN OF THE CITY OR MUNICIPALITY;
- (5) MONITOR AND EVALUATE THE URBAN MASTER PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTATION;

- (6) PROVIDE TECHNICAL AND SECRETARIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE CITY/MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL; AND
- (7) ASSIST THE ZONING OFFICE IN THE RESPECTIVE CITY OR MUNICIPALITY IN THEIR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES AND SHALL RENDER THE FOLLOWING TECHNICAL SUPPORT FUNCTIONS:
- (i) REVIEW AND PROCESS ALL APPLICATIONS FOR LOCATIONAL CLEARANCES FOR ALL PROJECTS;
 - (ii) PREPARE A LOCATIONAL CLEARANCE FOR EACH PROJECT CONFORMING TO ZONING REGULATIONS OR A NOTICE OF ACTION FOR EACH NON-CONFORMING PROJECT;
 - (iii) EVALUATE APPLICATIONS FOR VARIANCES AND EXCEPTIONS, INNOVATE DEVELOPMENT TECHNIQUES AND SPECIAL USE PERMITS;
 - (iv) STUDY REQUESTS FOR RECLASSIFICATION OR REZONING;
 - (v) PREPARE A CERTIFICATE OF NON-CONFORMANCE OR CLEARANCE FOR REPAIR/RENOVATION ON NON-CONFORMING USES IN ACCORDANCE WITH GUIDELINES PRESCRIBED IN THE CITY'S OR MUNICIPALITY'S ZONING ORDINANCE.

SEC. 6. After public consultation with the stakeholders and approval by the sanggunian, the UPD Office, through the local chief executive, shall submit a copy of the 10-year urban master plan to the Bureau of Local Government Supervision of the Department of Interior and Local Government. The Bureau of Local Government Supervision shall monitor the compliance of the city or municipality based on the approved urban master plan.

SEC. 7. Appropriations. - The appropriations for the permanent position herein created, including other related budget for its office, shall be included in the annual budget of the local government unit concerned of the year following the approval of this Act, and thereafter.

SEC. 8. Separability Clause. - If for any reason, any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, parts of provisions of this Act that are not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 9. Repealing Clause. - All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, implementing rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 10. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,