

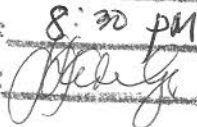
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Republic of the Philippines

House of Representatives
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 568

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	
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REGISTRATION UNIT BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE	

**Introduced by Hon. Sabiniano S. Canama
and Hon. Anthony M. Bravo
COOP-NATCCO PARTYLIST**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 2, Section 23, provides:

The State shall encourage non-governmental, community-based or sectoral organizations that promote the welfare of the nation.

A Non-Governmental Organization refers to any private entity, which is non-profit and voluntary in nature dedicated to the promotion, enhancement and support of the welfare of either a specific group of citizens or for a particular legitimate cause duly registered with any regulatory body.

Task-oriented and driven by people with a common interest, NGOs perform a wide range of service and humanitarian functions, bring citizen concerns to Governments, advocate and monitor policies and encourage political involvement through the provision of information. Some are organized around specific issues; such as human rights, environment or health. They share their scrutiny and know-how, serve as early warning mechanisms and assist in the monitoring and implementation of laws and international agreements.

This bill seeks to make NGOs more involved in the legislative process of local government units. It will create a stronger partnership in terms of sharing of ideas and resources between the government and the private sector.


HON. SABINIANO S. CANAMA


HON. ANTHONY M. BRAVO

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

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
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HOUSE BILL NO. 568

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**Introduced by Hon. Sabiniano S. Canama
and Hon. Anthony M. Bravo
COOP-NATCCO PARTYLIST**

AN ACT

ENHANCING PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE BY PROVIDING AN AVENUE FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS (CSOs) TO ASSIST IN THE LOCAL DECISION-MAKING PROCESS AND THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PEOPLE'S COUNCIL IN EVERY LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT, PRESCRIBING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS

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

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SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as “**ENHANCED Participatory Governance Act.**”

SEC. 2. **DECLARATION OF POLICIES.** - PURSUANT TO THE 1987 PHILIPPINE CONSTITUTION, IT IS HEREBY DECLARED THE POLICY OF THE STATE TO RESPECT AND STRENGTHEN THE ROLE AND RIGHTS OF NGOs IN THE PURSUIT OF THEIR COLLECTIVE INTERESTS AND ASPIRATIONS AND ENSURE THEIR EFFECTIVE AND REASONABLE PARTICIPATION AT ALL LEVELS OF SOCIAL, POLITICAL, AND ECONOMIC DECISION-MAKING.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991 ALSO STATES THE NEED TO INSTITUTIONALIZE THE PARTICIPATION OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR, THROUGH NGO PARTICIPATION IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE WITHIN THE BROAD CONTEXT OF PEOPLE EMPOWERMENT.

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SEC. 3. [Definition] **COVERAGE.** – THIS ACT SHALL APPLY TO ALL ACCREDITED NGOs AND LGUs INVOLVED IN THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS OF ALL BARANGAY, MUNICIPALITIES, CITIES, AND PROVINCES OF THE COUNTRY.

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AS USED IN THIS ACT, NGO refers to any private non-stock non-profit organization, regional or national in scope, duly registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), Cooperative Development Authority (CDA), or any

1 appropriate government regulatory body and exists for a particular legitimate cause. IT
2 MAY ALSO INCLUDE THE ACADEME, LOCAL RESOURCE INSTITUTES, CIVIC
3 GROUP AND PRIVATE SECTOR.

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5 **SEC. 4. ACCREDITATION of NGOs.** – NGOs based in a particular local
6 government unit can be accredited with their respective Provincial Board, City Council, or
7 Municipal Council. THE ACCREDITATION GIVEN TO ANY NGO SHALL BE VALID
8 FOR AT LEAST TWO (2) YEARS, AND MAY, AFTER REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT
9 OF THE CONCERNED LGU, BE RENEWED. THE SELECTED REPRESENTATIVE
10 SHALL HAVE PROVEN WORK INTEREST IN GOOD GOVERNANCE AND LOCAL
11 DEVELOPMENT, CONSISTENT GOOD RECORDS, AND PREFERABLY HAS
12 EXPERIENCE IN WORKING WITH DILG OR IN SIMILAR ENDEAVOR.

13 THE ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS AND MECHANISMS SHALL BE
14 BASED ON THE EXISTING DILG’s MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR PERTAINING
15 TO THE ACCREDITATION OF CSOs AND SELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES
16 AND THESE SHALL BE SPECIFIED IN THE IRR.

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18 **SEC. 5. Election of Representative.** – The accredited NGOs shall elect their
19 representatives to the respective Provincial Board, City Council, or Municipal Council. The
20 [office of this chosen] ELECTED representative shall [not] receive [any amount] SALARY
21 from the Provincial Board, City Council, or Municipal Council; PROVIDED, HOWEVER,
22 THAT THE OFFICE OF THE SAID REPRESENTATIVE [but] shall find its own
23 sources of funding through the group of accredited NGOs. The term of office of the
24 ELECTED representative shall be from the date of the election of the said representative
25 until the end of the current term of the members of the Provincial Boards, City Councils,
26 and Municipal Councils, unless sooner terminated for cause, as provided for by the rules of
27 the organization of the accredited NGOs.

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29 **SEC. 6. Participation of NGOs at the Local Legislative Level.** – NGOs can
30 participate in local legislation through the following means:

31 (a) NGOs with legitimate advocacies can directly participate in Provincial Boards,
32 City Councils and Municipal Councils through their chosen representative; AND

33 (b) The elected representative shall be allowed to file proposed ordinances, for or on
34 behalf of the accredited NGOs, participate in debates during hearings, [but without] AND
35 HAS the right to vote on the measures.

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37 **SEC. 7. Minimum Requirements IN REPRESENTATION.** – (a) In the first year
38 of the implementation of this ACT, there shall be a minimum of five (5) accredited NGOs
39 before they are allowed to send a representative; (b) in the second year of the

1 implementation of this Act, there shall be a minimum of ten (10) accredited NGOs before
2 they are allowed to send a representative; and (c) in the third year of the implementation of
3 this Act and thereafter, there shall be a minimum of fifteen (15) accredited NGOs before
4 they are allowed to send a representative.

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6 SEC. 8. **STRENGTHENED CAPACITY- BUILDING FOR THE NGO**
7 **REPRESENTATIVES.** - THERE SHALL BE A CONTINUOUS CAPACITY
8 BUILDING FOR NGO REPRESENTATIVES TO BETTER ASSESS THEIR
9 PERFORMANCE AND EFFICIENCY IN PARTICIPATING IN THE LOCAL
10 LEGISLATIVE PROCESS.

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12 THE TYPES OF CAPACITY- BUILDING PROGRAMS AND THE
13 QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE NGO REPRESENTATIVES WHO WILL BE
14 INVOLVED IN A PARTICULAR PROGRAM SHALL ALSO BE SPECIFIED IN
15 THE IRR.

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17 SEC. 9. **IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS.** - THE
18 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR SHALL, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE
19 CONCERNED NGOs, PROMULGATE THE IMPLEMENTING RULES AND
20 REGULATIONS WITHIN SIX (6) MONTHS FROM THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS
21 ACT.

22 SEC. 10. **Separability Clause.** - If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or
23 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall
24 remain valid and subsisting.

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26 SEC. 11. **Repealing Clause.** – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
27 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or
28 inconsistent with, the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended
29 accordingly.

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31 SEC. 12. **Effectivity Clause.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
32 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

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34 *Approved,*