EXPLANATORY NOTE

With the rising economy in the Western Visayas region particularly in the metropolitan Bacolod area, motor vehicle use has been on an upward trend, evident in the growing volume of traffic especially in major thoroughfares. Transport network vehicle systems (TNVS) have also become popular among citizens that it is now a major contributor in motor vehicle and user volume. Due to the aforementioned rise, transactions for services provided by the Land Transportation Office (LTO) in relation to motor vehicle registration and issuance of driver’s licenses have similarly increased.

The LTO Licensing Center in Bacolod City has been a major provider of highly qualified drivers for quite a long time in the City of Bacolod and from the province of Negros Occidental as it caters to 561,875 citizens from the city and 2,497,261 from the province. (PSA census, 2015). Despite the whopping population, the current workforce of the licensing center consists of only nine (9) regular personnel transferred from other district offices and four (4) job order assistants with no employee-employer relationship with the organization. Since 2013, the small office has catered to 82,165 license transactions with an average rate of increase in transactions of 12.36%. Furthermore, the said office has collected a total of 32,929,441.65 in revenue since its establishment, with an average rate of increase of 15.58%.

While the licensing center has shown remarkable achievements in the sustained growth in revenue collections and volume of transactions, the fact is that the current workforce find themselves flooded by applications from their large constituency resulting in transactions that could be more efficient through an increase in personnel, improvement of facilities, and greater operational budget.

As such, passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

REP. GREG G. GASATAYA
Lone District of Bacolod City
AN ACT
CONVERTING THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE REGION VI OF BACOLOD CITY INTO A REGULAR LICENSING CENTER TO BE KNOWN AS THE NEGROS OCCIDENTAL LICENSING CENTER, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Conversion into a Regular Licensing Center. — The Land Transportation Office (LTO) Licensing Center in Bacolod City is hereby converted into a Regular Licensing Center to be known as the Negros Occidental Licensing Center.

SECTION 2. Appropriations. — The Secretary of Transportation shall immediately include in the Department’s programs the operationalization of the Bacolod City Licensing Center, the initial funding of which shall be charged against the current year’s appropriation of the LTO Region VI of Bacolod City. Thereafter, such sums may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 3 Effectivity. — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

APPROVED,