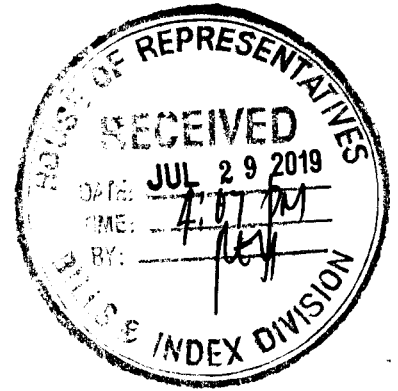


Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**EIGHTEENTH (18<sup>th</sup>) CONGRESS**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Regular Session*

3024  
**HOUSE BILL NO.** \_\_\_\_\_



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Introduced by **Hon. WILTER "SHARKY" WEE PALMA II**

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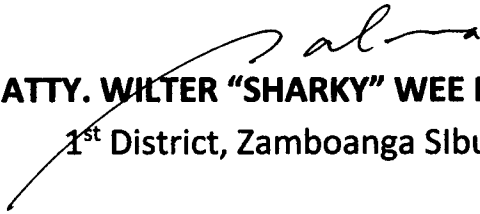
### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Nowadays, the importance of cooperatives cannot be overlooked. This is due to the fact that cooperatives represent a robust, vibrant, and manageable economic alternative that influences the lives of the people. At its very core, cooperatives are formed in order to serve as a central mechanism that would achieve goals and provide mutual needs that none of them could achieve alone.

In an increasingly competitive global economy, cooperatives have been an effective mechanism for people to assume control over their livelihoods. This is achieved through various risk management efforts for the members of various sectors (such as Agriculture, Service, Manufacturing, et. al.) that would aid these workers save for their respective futures through monthly contributions.

This is particularly prevalent in the case of the Philippines. The presence of cooperatives for our workers has greatly contributed towards the promotion of inclusion as well as the establishment of avenue that would facilitate a more equitable and viable benefits distribution system to be enjoyed by its members. In light of this, the Republic Act No. 7160 otherwise known as the Local Government Code, allows for the appointment of cooperative officers that is in charge of the office for the development of cooperatives. However, the appointment of a cooperative officer as stated in the code is optional. As a result, the local government units tend to disregard the importance of such appointment.

At its very core, the bill aims to recognize and reaffirm the importance of maintaining sustainability amongst local government units by fostering the creation of cooperatives that would greatly contribute to the overall development of various enterprises. With this, a cooperatives officer under the Cooperative Development Office in every province, city and municipality should be made mandatory. In view thereof, support and approval of this measure is earnestly sought.



**ATTY. WILTER "SHARKY" WEE PALMA II**  
1<sup>st</sup> District, Zamboanga Sibugay

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Philippines

**EIGHTEENTH (18<sup>th</sup>) CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session  
**3024**  
**HOUSE BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

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Introduced By **HON. WILTER “SHARKY” WEE PALMA II**

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**AN ACT**

**MAKING THE POSITION OF A COOPERATIVES OFFCER MANDATORY IN THE MUNICIPAL, CITY AND PROVINCIAL LEVELS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991”**

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

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

3                           “SEC. 443. *Officials of the Municipal Government.* –

4                           (a) There shall be in each municipality a municipal mayor, a  
5 municipal vice mayor, sangguniang bayan members, a secretary to the  
6 sangguniang bayan, a municipal treasurer, a municipal assessor, a  
7 municipal accountant, a municipal budget officer, a municipal planning and  
8 development coordinator, a municipal engineering/building official, a

9 municipal health officer, a municipal civil registrar, **AND A MUNICIPAL**  
10 **COOPERATIVES OFFICER.**

11 “(b) x x x

12 “(c) x x x

13 “(d) x x x

14 “(e) x x x

15  
16 **SEC. 2.** Section 454, Book III, Title Three, Chapter 2 of Republic Act No.  
17 7160, is hereby amended to read as follows:

18 “SEC. 454. *Officials of the City Government.* –

19 (a) There shall be in each city a mayor, a vice mayor,  
20 sangguniang pang lungsod members, a secretary to the sangguniang  
21 panglungsod, a city treasurer, a city assessor, a city accountant, a city  
22 budget officer, a city planning and development coordinator, a city  
23 engineer, a city health officer, a city civil registrar, a city administrator, a  
24 city legal officer, a city veterinarian, a city social welfare and development  
25 officer, [and] a city general services officer, **AND A CITY COOPERATIVES**  
26 **OFFICER.**

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

31 “x x x

32 “(c) x x x

33 “(d) x x x

34 “(e) x x x

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

37                               “SEC. 463. *Officials of the Provincial Government.* –

38                               (a) There shall be in each province a governor, a vice governor,  
39 members of the sangguniang panlalawigan, a secretary to the sangguniang  
40 panlalawigan, a provincial treasurer, a provincial assessor, a provincial  
41 accountant, a provincial engineer, a provincial budget officer, a provincial  
42 planning and development coordinator, a provincial legal officer, a  
43 provincial administrator, a provincial health officer, a provincial social  
44 welfare and development officer, a provincial general services officer, a  
45 provincial agriculturist, [and] a provincial veterinarian, **AND A PROVINCIAL**  
46 **COOPERATIVES OFFICER.**

47                               “(b) In addition thereto, the governor may appoint a provincial  
48 population officer, a provincial natural resources and environment officer,  
49 [a provincial cooperative officer,] a provincial architect, and a provincial  
50 information officer.

51                               “ x x x

52                               “(c) x x x

53                               “(d) x x x

54                               “(e) x x x.”

55

56           **SEC. 4.** Section 484 of Book III, Title Five, Article Fourteen of Republic Act  
57 No. 7160, is hereby amended to read as follows:

58   **[Article XIV**

59   **The Environment and Natural Resources Officer**

60

61           **Sec. 484. *Qualifications, Powers and Duties.*** – (a) No person shall be  
62 appointed environment and natural resources officer unless he is a citizen  
63 of the Philippines, a resident of the local government unit concerned of  
64 good moral character, a holder of a college degree preferably in  
65 environment, forestry, agriculture, or any related course from a recognized  
66 college or university, and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent.  
67 He must have acquired experience in environmental and natural resources  
68 management, conservation, and utilization, for at least five (5) years in the  
69 case of the provincial or city environment and natural resources officer, and  
70 three (3) years in the case of the municipal environment and natural  
71 resources officer.

72           The appointment of the environment and natural resources officer is  
73 optional for the provincial, city, and municipal governments.

74           (b) The environment and natural resources management officer shall  
75 take charge of the office on environment and natural resources and shall:

76           (1) Formulate measures for the consideration of the sanggunian and  
77 provide technical assistance and support to the governor and mayor, as the  
78 case may be, in carrying out measures to ensure the delivery of basic  
79 services and provision of adequate facilities relative to environment and  
80 natural resources services as provided for under Section 17 of this Code:

81           (2) Develop plans and strategies and upon approval thereof by the  
82 Governor or mayor, as the case may be, implement the same, particularly  
83 those which have to do with environment and natural resources programs  
84 and projects which the governor or mayor is empowered to implement and  
85 which the sanggunian is empowered to provide for under this Code;

86           (3) In addition to the foregoing duties and functions, the  
87 environment and natural resources officer shall:

88           (i) Establish, maintain, protect and preserve communal forests,  
89 watersheds, tree parks, mangroves, greenbelts, commercial forests, and  
90 similar forest projects, like industrial tree farms and agro-forestry projects:

91 (ii) Provide extension services to beneficiaries of forest development  
92 projects and technical, financial and infrastructure assistance;

93 (iii) Manage and maintain seed banks and produce seedlings for  
94 forest and tree parks;

95 (iv) Provide extension services to beneficiaries of forest development  
96 projects and render assistance for natural resources-related conservation  
97 and utilization activities consistent with ecological balance;

98 (v) Promote the small-scale mining utilization of mineral resources,  
99 particularly mining of gold;

100 (vi) Coordinate with government agencies and non-governmental  
101 organizations in the implementation of measures to prevent and control  
102 land, air, and water pollution with the assistance of the Department of  
103 Environment and Natural Resources;

104 (4) Be in the frontline of the delivery of services concerning the  
105 environment and natural resources, particularly in the renewal and  
106 rehabilitation of the environment during and in the aftermath of man-made  
107 and natural disasters and calamities;

108 (5) Recommend to the sanggunian and advise the governor or mayor,  
109 as the case may be, on all matters relative to the protection, conservation,  
110 maximum utilization, application of appropriate technology and other  
111 matters related to the environment and natural resources; and

112 (c) Exercise such other powers and reform such other duties and  
113 functions as may be prescribed by law or ordinance.]

114  
115 **ARTICLE XIV**

116 **THE COOPERATIVES OFFICER**

117 ***“SEC. 484 - A . QUALIFICATIONS, POWERS AND DUTIES. –***

118 (A) NO PERSON SHALL BE APPOINTED COOPERATIVES OFFICER  
119 UNLESS ONE IS A CITIZEN OF THE PHILIPPINES, A RESIDENT OF THE LOCAL  
120 GOVERNMENT UNIT CONCERNED, OF GOOD MORAL CHARACTER, A  
121 HOLDER OF A COLLEGE DEGREE PREFERABLY IN BUSINESS  
122 ADMINISTRATION WITH SPECIAL TRAINING IN COOPERATIVES OR ANY  
123 RELATED COURSE FROM A RECOGNIZED COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY, AND A  
124 FIRST GRADE CIVIL SERVICE ELIGIBLE OR ITS EQUIVALENT. ONE MUST  
125 HAVE EXPERIENCE IN COOPERATIVES ORGANIZATION AND  
126 MANAGEMENT FOR AT LEAST FIVE (5) YEARS IN THE CASE OF PROVINCIAL  
127 OR CITY COOPERATIVES OFFICER, AND THREE (3) YEARS IN THE CASE OF  
128 MUNICIPAL COOPERATIVES OFFICER.

129 “(B) THE COOPERATIVES OFFICER SHALL TAKE CHARGE OF THE  
130 OFFICE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATIVES AND SHALL:

131 “(1) FORUMALTE MEASURES FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THE  
132 SANGGUNIAN, AND PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT TO  
133 THE GOVERNOR OR MAYOR, AS THE CASE MAY BE, IN CARRYING OUT  
134 MEASURES TO ENSURE THE DELIVERY OF BASIC SERVICES AND PROVISION  
135 OF FACILITIES THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATIVES, AND IN  
136 PROVIDING ACCESS TO SUCH SERVICES AND FACILITIES;

137 “(2) DEVELOP PLANS AND STRATEGIES AND, UPON APPROVAL  
138 THEREOF BY THE GOVERNOR OR MAYOR, AS THE CASE MAY BE,  
139 IMPLEMENT THE SAME, PARTICULARLY THOSE WHICH HAVE TO DO WITH  
140 THE INTEGRATION OF COOPERATIVES PRINCIPLES AND METHODS IN  
141 PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS WHICH THE GOVERNOR OR MAYOR IS  
142 EMPOWERED TO IMPLEMENT AND WHICH THE SANGGUNIAN IS  
143 EMPOWERD TO PROVIDE FOR UNDER THIS CODE;

144 “(3) IN ADDITION TO THE FOREGOING DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS, THE  
145 COOPERATIVES OFFICER SHALL:

146 “(I) ASSIST THE ORGANIZATION OF COOPERATIVES;



147                   **“(II) PROVIDE TECHNICAL AND OTHER FORMS OF ASSISTANCE TO**  
148 **EXISTING COOPERATIVES TO ENHANCE THEIR VIABILITY AS AN ECONOMIC**  
149 **ENTERPRISE AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATION;**

150                   **“(III) ASSIST COOPERATIVES IN ESTABLISHING LINKAGES WITH**  
151 **GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND NONGOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS**  
152 **INVOLVED IN THE PROMOTION AND INTEGRATION OF THE CONCEPT OF**  
153 **COOPERATIVES IN THE LIVELIHOOD OF THE PEOPLE AND OTHER**  
154 **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES;**

155                   **“(4) BE IN THE FRONTLINE OF COOPERATIVES ORGANIZATION,**  
156 **REHABILITATION OR VIABILITY-ENHANCEMENT, PARTICULARLY DURING**  
157 **AND IN THE AFTERMATH OF MAN-MADE AND NATURAL DISASTERS AND**  
158 **CALAMITIES, TO AID IN THEIR SURVIVAL AND, IF NECESSARY,**  
159 **SUBSEQUENT REHABILITATION’**

160                   **“(5) RECOMMEND TO THE SANGGUNIAN, AND ADVISE THE**  
161 **GOVERNOR OR MAYOR, AS THE CASE MAY BE, ON ALL MATTERS**  
162 **RELATIVE TO COOPERATIVES DEVELOPMENT AND VIABILITY-**  
163 **ENHANCEMENT WHICH WILL IMPROVE THE LIVELIHOOD AND QUALITY OF**  
164 **LIFE OF THE INHABITANTS; AND**

165                   **“(C) EXERCISE SUCH OTHER POWERS AND PERFORM SUCH OTHER**  
166 **DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS AS MAY BE PRESCRIBED BY LAW OR**  
167 **ORDINANCE.”**

168

169

170                   **SEC. 5.** Section 487 of Book III, Title Five, Article Seventeen of Republic Act  
171 No. 7160, is hereby amended to read as follows:

172

**“ARTICLE XVII**

173

**THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICER**

174

**“SEC. 487. QUALIFICATIONS, POWERS AND DUTIES. –**

175 (A) NO PERSON SHALL BE APPOINTED ENVIRONMENT AND  
176 NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICER UNLESS ONE IS A CITIZEN OF THE  
177 PHILIPPINES, A RESIDENT OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT  
178 CONCERNED, OF GOOD MORAL CHARACTER, A HOLDER OF A COLLEGE  
179 DEGREE PREFERABLY IN ENVIRONMENT, FORESTRY, AGRICULTURE OR  
180 ANY RELATED COURSE FROM A RECOGNIZED COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY,  
181 AND A FIRST GRADE CIVIL SERVICE ELIGIBLE OR ITS EQUIVALENT. ONE  
182 MUST HAVE ACQUIRED EXPERIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL  
183 RESOURCES MANAGEMENT, CONSERVATION, AND UTILIZATION, FOR AT  
184 LEAST FIVE (5) YEARS IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL OR CITY  
185 ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICER, AND THREE (3)  
186 YEARS IN THE CASE OF THE MUNICIPAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL  
187 RESOURCES OFFICER.

188 "THE APPOINTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL  
189 RESOURCES OFFICER IS OPTIONAL FOR PROVINCIAL, CITY, AND  
190 MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS.

191 "(B) THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT  
192 OFFICER SHALL TAKE CHARGE OF THE OFFICE ON ENVIRONMENT AND  
193 NATURAL RESOURCES AND SHALL:

194 "(1) FORMULATE MEASURES FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THE  
195 SANGGUNIAN AND PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT TO  
196 THE GOVERNOR OR MAYOR, AS THE CASE MAY BE, IN CARRYING OUT  
197 MEASURES TO ENSURE THE DELIVERY OF BASIC SERVICES AND PROVISION  
198 OF ADEQUATE FACILITIES RELATIVE TO ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL  
199 RESOURCES SERVICES AS PROVIDED FOR UNDER SECTION 17 OF THIS  
200 CODE:

201 "(2) DEVELOP PLANS AND STRATEGIES AND UPON APPROVAL  
202 THEREOF BY THE GOVERNOR OR MAYOR, AS THE CASE MAY BE,  
203 IMPLEMENT THE SAME, PARTICULARLY THOSE WHICH HAVE TO DO WITH  
204 ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS  
205 WHICH THE GOVERNOR OR MAYOR IS EMPOWERD TO IMPLEMENT AND

206 WHICH THE SANGGUNIAN IS EMPOWERED TO PROVIDE FOR UNDER THIS  
207 CODE;

208 “(3) IN ADDITION TO THE FOREGOING DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS, THE  
209 ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICER SHALL:

210 “(I) ESTABLISH, MAINTAIN, PROTECT AND PRESERVE COMMUNAL  
211 FORESTS, WAWTershEDS, TREE PARKSM MANGROVES, GREENBELTS,  
212 COMMERCIAL FORESTS AND SIMILAR FOREST PROJECTS, LIKE INDUSTRIAL  
213 TREE FARMS AND AGRO-FORESTRY PROJECTS;

214 “(II) PROVIDE EXTENSION SERVICES TO BENEFICIARIES OF FOREST  
215 DEVELOPMENT PROECTS AND TECHNICAL, FINANCIAL AND  
216 INFRASTRUCTURE ASSISTANCE;

217 “(III) MANAGE AND MAINTAIN SEED BANKS AND PRODUCE  
218 SEEDLINGS FOR FORESTS AND TREE PARLS;

219 “(IV) PROVIDE EXTENSION SERVICES TO BENEFICIARIES OF FOREST  
220 DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AND RENDER ASSISTANCE FOR NATURAL  
221 RESOURCES-RELATED CONSERVATION AND UTILIZATION ACTIVITIES  
222 CONSISTENT WITH ECOLOGICAL BALANCE;

223 “(V) PROMOTE THE SMALL-SCALE MINING AND UTILIZATION OF  
224 MINERAL RESOURCES, PARTICULARLY MINING OF GOLD;

225 “(VI) COORDINATE WITH GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND  
226 NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF  
227 MEASURES TO PREVENT AND CONTROL LAND, AIR AND WATER  
228 POLLUTION WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
229 ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES;

230 “(4) BE IN THE FRONTLINE OF THE DELIVERY OF SERVICES  
231 CONCERNING THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES,  
232 PARTICULARLY IN THE RENEWAL AND REHABILITATION OF THE  
233 ENVIRONMENT DURING AND IN THE AFTERMATH OF MAN-MADE AND  
234 NATURAL DISASTERS AND CALAMITIES;

235           “(5) RECOMMEND TO THE SANGGUNIAN AND ADVISE THE  
236 GOVERNOR OR MAYOR, AS THE CASE MAY BE, ON ALL MATTERS  
237 RELATIVE TO THE PROTECTION, CONSERVATION, MAXIMUM  
238 UTILIZATION, APPLICATION OF APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY AND OTHER  
239 MATTERS RELATED TO THE ENVIROMNENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES;  
240 AND

241           “(C) EXERCISE SUCH OTHER POWERSAND REFORM SUCH OTHER  
242 DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS AS MAY BE PRESCRIBED BY LAW OR  
243 ORDINANCE.”

244  
245           **SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and  
246 regulations, issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby  
247 repealed or amended accordingly.

248  
249           **SEC. 7. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
250 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

251  
252           ***Approved,***

253