

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 148

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Introduced by:

Representatives Raul V. Del Mar, Ramon "Red" H. Durano VI, Benhur L. Salimbangon, Gwendolyn F. Garcia, Rodrigo A. Abellanosa, Gerald Anthony V. Gullas, Jr., Aileen C. Radaza, Wilfredo S. Caminero, Jonas C. Cortes and Peter John D. Calderon

EXPLANATORY NOTE

WHEREAS, Article X, Section 13 of the 1987 Constitution states that "local government units may group themselves, consolidate or coordinate their efforts, services, and resources for purposes commonly beneficial to them in accordance with law."

WHEREAS, Article X, Section 14 of the 1987 Constitution states that "the President shall provide for regional development councils or other similar bodies composed of local government officials, regional heads of departments and other offices, and representatives from non-government organizations within the region for purposes of administrative decentralization to strengthen the autonomy of units therein and to accelerate the economic and social development of the units in the region."

WHEREAS, consistent with these mandates, inter-local cooperation, public-private sector collaboration, and other cooperative arrangements with and among local government units, national government agencies and other government offices, private and business sector, and people's, non-government and civil society organizations are essential in order to coordinate efforts, services, and resources for common beneficial purposes.

WHEREAS, founded on the need to promote and develop shared assets and address trans-boundary issues and challenges attendant to a growing and rapidly urbanizing metropolis, public and private sector leaders and stakeholders of Cebu subscribe to the principles and premises of Primus Inter Pares (First Among Equals), inter-local and city region coordination, public-private sector partnership and collaboration, and citizen and civil society engagement for metropolitan development.

WHEREAS, anchored on the big picture, holistic, and long term perspective of development, leaders and stakeholders emphasized the importance of evidence-based and expertise-supported planning, policy, and decision-making.

WHEREAS, stakeholders in Metropolitan Cebu and surrounding areas in the Province of Cebu envision and aspire for a “Wholesome, Advanced, Vibrant, Equitable, and Sustainable (W.A.V.E.S.) Cebu in 2050 thru alignment of public and private sector efforts with the development strategy of competitiveness, liveability, mobility, and metropolitan management and the implementation of a roadmap for sustainable urban development.

WHEREAS, building and capitalizing on the gains of collaboration and engagement and in the pursuit of the Mega Cebu 2050 Vision, there is a need to establish the Mega Cebu Development Authority (MCDA) to initiate efforts, provide services, and coordinate policies, plans, programs, and projects with concerned local government units (LGUs), national government agencies (NGAs), government owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs), private sector and civil society, and constituent communities with regard to the development and promotion of shared assets and resources, delivery of common services and functions, all trans-boundary in nature, to achieve integrated, inclusive, and sustained development.

PURSUANT THERETO, stakeholders of highly urbanized cities of Cebu, Mandaue and Lapu-Lapu as well as the component cities of Danao, Talisay, Naga and Carcar, and the municipalities of Consolacion, Liloan, Compostela, Cordova, Minglanilla and San Fernando comprising the Metropolitan Cebu area, and surrounding cities and towns in the Province of Cebu, civil society and private sector organizations, and national government agencies and other public sector organizations aspire for a permanent, appropriate, and responsive institutional platform that commits to and is reflective of the principles and framework of inter-local and city-region collaboration, public-private sector partnership, citizen and civil society engagement, and evidence-based and expert-assisted planning and development.



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AN ACT

CREATING THE MEGA CEBU DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, PRESCRIBING ITS POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Mega Cebu Development Authority Act of 2016."

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policies and Principles.* - It is hereby the declared policy of the State to promote and accelerate the sustainable development and balanced growth of the Province of Cebu and the highly urbanized Cities of Cebu, Mandaue, and Lapu-Lapu, within the context of national policies for economic, social, and environmental well-being.

It is likewise hereby declared to be the policy of the State to treat Metropolitan Cebu as a special development and administrative region where certain policies, programs, and services affecting or involving Metro Cebu, on a metro-wide

or multi-LGU level, are more efficiently and effectively planned, supervised, implemented, and coordinated by a development authority as created herein, without prejudice to the autonomy of the affected local government units.

Pursuant to these national policies, the following aspirations and principles are hereby declared:

(a) To recognize a more institutionalized approach to metropolitan or multi-LGU and integrated development planning that is expertise-supported and evidence-based, participatory, responsible, accountable, and necessary for all or part of its community;

(b) To foster cooperative relations between and among metropolitan and surrounding cities and towns in order to efficiently and effectively sustain efforts and meet the needs, promote and develop shared assets and resources, and provide services that transcend geopolitical municipal and city boundaries without prejudice to the autonomy of the affected local government units;

(c) To ensure active participation by the private, business, and civil society sector in the governance, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of plans, policies, standards, programs, projects, and services; and,

(d) To implement a national government-approved Metropolitan Cebu Roadmap and other subsequent and related metro-wide or multi-LGU roadmaps and plans that ensure long-term, sustainable and continuing directions, priorities, and programs for and by the constituent local and national government agencies and units, private, business, and civil society sector.

SEC. 3. Definition of Terms. - The following terms used in this Act shall have the meaning as stated below:

(a) **Business Sector** refers to for-profit, and commercial enterprises or businesses and business associations and coalitions (cross-industry, multi-issue groups; cross-industry, issue-specific initiatives; industry-focused initiative); including but not limited to, corporate philanthropic foundations.

