

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

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3762



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*Introduced by Rep. Anna Katrina M. Enverga*

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

Our Constitution provides that the State shall promote industrialization and full employment based on sound agricultural development and agrarian reform, through industries that make full and efficient use of human and natural resources, and which are competitive in both domestic and foreign markets. In the pursuit of these goals, all sectors of the economy and all regions of the country shall be given optimum opportunity to develop. Private enterprises, including corporations, cooperatives, and similar collective organizations, shall be encouraged to broaden the base of their ownership.

This bill provides for the creation of Northern Quezon Development Authority (NQDA) which will pave the way for the gradual development of the long neglected eastern coastal towns of the first congressional district of Quezon. The bill likewise intends to create an institutional machinery to ensure an effective ecologic and economic management of the northern part of the Province of Quezon specifically the municipalities surrounding the upper portion (northern) of Lamón Bay areas.

Northern Lamón Bay is a vast body of water consisting Lamón Bay and part of the Pacific Ocean encompassing the five (5) island-municipalities in the first district of Quezon (northern Quezon), it is a rich fishing ground that supply substantially marine and fish requirements of Southern Tagalog Region

and Metro Manila. Apart from having a rich marine life and other aquatic resources, four coastal towns of General Nakar, Infanta, Real and Mauban, Quezon, cover large area of forest lands rich in wild flora and fauna, animals, forest and fruit trees and a watershed area supply supporting existing and proposed hydroelectric power plants, domestic water supply and irrigation works.

The Northern Quezon is also in a strategic location ideal for harbor and port development in the pacific side of the country. This key geographic location underscores its potential to be a major transshipment point and center of trade in the northern Pacific Rim. Furthermore, thru Infanta-Marikina Road, imported and local products can easily reach Metro Manila hence it will play a significant role in trade and economic activities of the country.

Yet despite its strategic location to facilitate economic development, its potential is however, not actualized. There is a lack of industrial progress in the aforementioned coastal towns and island-municipalities. There is no known development plan for the whole of the northern part of Quezon. Development Plans are still in the municipal level. Integrated and sustainable plan needs to be drawn and implemented in the area if real development is to be achieved.

The Northern Quezon Development Authority (NQDA) will promote the socio-economic development of Quezon first district through a holistic and integrative coordination of all active sectors in the area. This agency will oversee the general development of the area and will create a framework that will facilitate economic progress and ecological preservation.

In order to effect a serious and comprehensive long-term program for socio- economic development, commensurate to the demands of time, the passage of this measure is earnestly sought.

  
ANNA KATRINA M. ENVERGA

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AN ACT CREATING NORTHERN QUEZON DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY IN THE  
PROVINCE OF QUEZON AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

**SECTION 1. - Title** - This Act shall be known as the "Northern Quezon  
Development Authority Act of 2016".

**SEC. 2 . - Creation of Northern Quezon Development Authority.** -The  
Northern Quezon Development Authority (NQDA), hereinafter referred to as the  
Authority, is hereby created which shall promote, coordinate, and facilitate the active  
and extensive participation of all sectors to effect the socio-economic development of  
the northern area in the first congressional district of Quezon province.

**SEC.3. - Coverage.** -The Authority shall cover all the municipalities of  
Mauban, Infanta, Real, General Nakar, Polillo, Burdeos, Panukulan, Patnanungan and  
Jomalig, Quezon,

**SEC. 4. - Principal Office and Term.** -The Authority shall have its main  
office at Real, Quezon. It may establish Area Management Offices (AMOS) as it may  
deem necessary to achieve the objectives of this Act. The Authority shall have a term of

1 fifty (50) years from the effectivity of this Act and renewable for the same period  
2 unless otherwise provided by law.  
3

4 **SEC. 5. Powers and Functions of Authority.** The Authority shall have the  
5 following powers and functions:

- 6 (a) Formulate an integrated development framework for the area;
- 7 (b) Integrate, prioritize and program area-wide specific programs, activities  
8 and projects with province-wide impact;
- 9 (c) Promote and facilitate investments in any field which would enhance the  
10 socio-economic development of the area and uplift the living standards  
11 of the people and their socio-political activities in close coordination  
12 with agencies primarily mandated to undertake such function;
- 13 (d) Explore sources for financing priority programs, projects and activities;
- 14 (e) Coordinate and facilitate the extension of necessary planning  
15 management and technical assistance to prospective and existing  
16 investors, complementary and in support of agencies primarily  
17 mandated to execute such functions;
- 18 (f) Establish comprehensive and integrated databases on necessary for  
19 planning and decision-making;
- 20 (g) Monitor, evaluate and formulate recommendations on the  
21 implementation of area wide and/or specific inter-agency development  
22 programs, activities and projects;
- 23 (h) Act as the implementing agency, whenever necessary, for the  
24 accomplishment of province and region-wide programs and projects,  
25 including Official Development Assistance (ODA) projects, subject to  
26 such limitations prescribed by existing laws, rules, and regulations;
- 27 (i) Receive and administer donations, contributions, grants, bequest or gifts  
28 in cash or in kind from foreign governments, international agencies,  
29 private entities, and other sources, including Official Development  
30 Assistance (ODA) agencies, for purposes that would contribute to the  
31 development of Northern Quezon , subject to existing laws, rules and  
32 regulations;

- 1 (j) To sue and be sued, enter into contracts, acquire, purchase, hold, lease,  
2 transfer, and dispose of property of any kind or nature necessary to  
3 carry out the purposes of this Act;
- 4 (k) Discharge other functions which may be deemed necessary or as may be  
5 provided by law.
- 6 (l) Submit to the President and both Houses of Congress annual reports on  
7 its accomplishments and activities.
- 8 (m) Receive and administer donations, contributions, grants, bequest or gifts  
9 in cash or in kind from foreign governments, international agencies,  
10 private entities, and other sources, including Official Development  
11 Assistance (ODA) agencies, for purposes that would contribute to the  
12 development of the area, subject to existing laws, rules and regulations;
- 13 (n) To sue and be sued, enter into contracts, acquire, purchase, hold, lease,  
14 transfer, and dispose of property of any kind or nature necessary to  
15 carry out the purposes of this Act;
- 16 (o) Discharge other functions which may be deemed necessary or as may  
17 be provided by law.
- 18

19 **SEC. 6 . Board of Directors** – The affairs and business of the Authority shall  
20 be directed and its properties managed and preserved by a Board of Directors to be  
21 composed of the Regional Director of the National Economic Development Authority  
22 (NEDA) as the *ex-officio* Chairman, and the following as Members,:

- 23 1) The Administrator of the Authority;
- 24 2) Regional Director of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) – *ex-*  
25 *officio* Member;
- 26 3) Regional Director of the Department of the Public Works and Highways  
27 (DPWH) – *ex-officio* Member;
- 28 4) Regional Director of the Department of Tourism (DOT) – *ex-officio*  
29 Member;
- 30 5) Regional Director of Department of Agriculture (DA) – *ex-officio*  
31 Member;
- 32 6) Regional Director of Department of Environment and Natural Resources

1 (DENR) – *ex-officio* Member;

- 2 7) Administrator of National Electrification Administration (NEA) – *ex-*  
3 *officio* Member;
- 4 8) General Manager of Philippine Port Authority- *ex-officio* Member;
- 5 9) Representative, First District of Quezon – *ex-officio* Member;
- 6 10) Provincial Governor, Quezon Province – *ex-officio* Member;
- 7 11) Municipal Mayors of Municipalities of Mauban, Infanta, Real, General  
8 Nakar, Polillo, Burdeos, Panukulan, Patnanungan, and Jomalig, Quezon; –  
9 *ex-officio* Members;
- 10 12) Three (3) other members representing the private sector to be  
11 appointed by the President, who shall serve for a term of five (5) years  
12 unless sooner removed for cause: Provided, That the person appointed  
13 shall be of good moral character, of unquestionable integrity, of known  
14 probity and patriotism, and with experience and expertise in  
15 management, business, finance and the professions, and preferably  
16 coming from the First District of Quezon.
- 17 13) Three (3) Representatives from Non Government Organizations (NGOs)  
18 in the area with proven track record in advocacy and program  
19 management in agriculture, fisheries, environmental protection, marine  
20 resources, rural development and trade and industries.

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22 The *ex-officio* members of the Board may designate their representatives to  
23 the Authority. The decisions of the Board shall be made by a vote of the majority of all  
24 its members. The Chairman of the Board shall preside over meetings of the Board of  
25 Directors.

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27 **SEC. 7. Board Meetings.** – The Board of Directors shall meet preferably at its  
28 principal office, at least once a month, and as frequently as necessary to discharge its  
29 duties and responsibilities. The Board shall be convened by the Chairman or upon  
30 written request signed by majority of the members.

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1                   **SEC. 8 Powers and Functions of the Board.** – The Board of Directors of the  
2 Authority shall have the following powers and functions and duties.

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- 4                   (1) Provide direction and guidance for the Authority's work and thrusts;
- 5                   (2) Ensure that the goals and policies of the Authority are consistent with the  
6                   overall national development goals and objectives;
- 7                   (3) Ensure that the programs of the Authority are consistent with regional  
8                   and local development plans, program and projects, and vice versa for  
9                   purposes of harmonization;
- 10                  (4) Explore sources for financing of priority plans, programs, projects and  
11                  activities;
- 12                  (5) Create committees/task forces as may be deemed necessary in the  
13                  accomplishments of its duties and fiinctions;
- 14                  (6) Determine schedules; establish voting procedures, criteria for the  
15                  constitution of a quorum, and other des and regulations in the conduct of  
16                  Board meetings;
- 17                  (7) To prepare and approve a ten (10) year and a five (5) year development  
18                  plan, and review and expedite the execution of these plans when  
19                  necessary;
- 20                  (8) To appoint and discipline any employee, after according them due process  
21                  in accordance with existing laws, together with the rules and regulations of  
22                  the Civil Service Commission;
- 23                  (9) To elect from among the members of the Board of Directors the following  
24                  Executive officers: 1) President/Chairman of the Board, 2) Vice-  
25                  Pres/Vice- Chairman of the Board ,3) Secretary. *Provided* That, the Board  
26                  shall likewise have the corresponding power to replace any the board or  
27                  for acts prejudicial to the objectives of the Authority;
- 28                  (10) To screen and approve the appointment of the following : General  
29                  Manager, Assistant General Manager, and other key officials of the  
30                  Authority;
- 31                  (11) To request a periodic or special audit of all its funds and properties from  
32                  the Commission on Audits when the need arises;

- 1 (12) To adopt a seal and flag which is judicial noticed, determine the exact  
2 location of its office preferably near its area of operation and adopt its  
3 own rules and procedure in meetings and general assemblies in  
4 accordance with the standards of transparency and democratic  
5 parliamentary procedures;
- 6 (13) To recommend to Congress, the NEDA and other government agencies  
7 the passage of laws and other rules and regulation in order to carry out  
8 the objectives of the Authority;
- 9 (14) To exercise such powers and perform such functions which are proper  
10 and necessary to implement the objectives of the Authority and to carry  
11 out provisions of this act.
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13 **SEC. 9. Terms of Office of the General Manager.** – The General Manager of  
14 the Authority shall serve for a fixed term of four (4) years, unless removed from office  
15 by a vote of two-thirds of the Board of Directors.

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17 **SEC. 10. Residence and Prohibition.** – The General Manager shall, if  
18 practicable, establish his residence within the first congressional district of Quezon.  
19 He/She shall not, during his/her tenure of office, engage in any business, profession, or  
20 calling other than those connected with the performance of his/her official duties as  
21 the General Manager of the Authority.

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23 **SEC.11. Power and Duties of the General Manager.** – The General Manager  
24 shall have the following powers and functions:

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- 26 a. Submit, for the consideration of the Board, the policies and measures which  
27 he believes to be necessary to carry out the purposes and provisions of this  
28 Act,
- 29 b. Execute and administer the policies, plans, programs and projects  
30 approved by the Board,
- 31 c. Direct and supervise the operations and internal administration of the  
32 Authority. The General Manager may delegate some of his administration



1 responsibilities to other officers of the Authority subject to the rules and  
2 regulations of the Board,

- 3 d. Prepare the annual budget of the Authority for consideration of the  
4 Board,  
5 e. *Submit, within thirty (30) days after the close of each fiscal year an*  
6 *annual report to the Board and such other reports as may be required,*  
7 *and*  
8 f. Exercise such other powers as may be vested in him by the Board.  
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10 **SEC. 12. Appropriations** - The amount necessary to carry out the provisions  
11 of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriation Act of the year following its  
12 enactment into law and thereafter.  
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14 **SEC. 13. Repealing Clause.** -All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and  
15 regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act  
16 are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.  
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18 **SEC. 14. Separability Clause.** -If any part or provision of this Act is held  
19 unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions thereof, which are not affected,  
20 shall continue to remain in full force and effect.  
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22 **SEC. 15. Effectivity.** -This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following  
23 completion of its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.  
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25 APPROVED,