



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 7355

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BY REPRESENTATIVES FERRER (J.M.), MARAÑON, BENITEZ, PADUANO, VALMAYOR, YULO, ALVAREZ (M.), GASATAYA, LIMKAICHONG, SAGARBARRIA, TEVES (A.), CO (E.), QUIMBO, MENDOZA, LIBANAN, ALBANO, DELOS SANTOS, GARIN, GONZALEZ, PALMA, PRIMICIAS-AGABAS, TEVES (J.), ALVAREZ (J.), AQUINO, BAUTISTA-LIM, BERNOS, BONGALON, CABREDO, CAJAYON-UY, CARI, CO (A.N.), CUA, CUARESMA, DEL MAR, DUJALI, FUENTEBELLA, LARA, LOYOLA, NAVA, SALIMBANGON, SINGSON (R.V.), TIANGCO, UMALI, VARGAS-ALFONSO, YAP (ERIC), YU (D.G.), ZAMORA (M.C.), ZUBIRI, ABALOS, ALMARIO, AMANTE, ANG, ATAYDE, BASCUG, BOSITA, BUSTOS, CARDEMA, CHATTO, CHUNGALAO, CO-PILAR, CRUZ (A.), CRUZ (R.), DAGOOC, DIMAPORO (S.A.), DIONISIO, DY (F.M.C.), EUDELA, FORTES, FRESNEDI, GARCIA (D.), GARDIOLA, GO (M.), GOLEZ, GUTIERREZ, HERNANDEZ, KHONGHUN, LAGON (D.), LAGON (S.), LAZATIN, MACEDA, MANGAOANG, MANQUIZ, MATIBAG, MERCADO, NOGRALES (M.I.), OUANO-DIZON, PANALIGAN, PANCHO, PLAZA, PLEYTO, REVILLA (R.J.), RODRIGUEZ (E.), SALI, SANTOS, TAN (J.), TULFO (J.), UNABIA, VARGAS, VERGARA, VERZOSA, YAP (C.), BULUT-BEGTANG, DALOG, GOMEZ, ROMULO, SALO, VILLA, VILLAFUERTE (L.R.), ZAMORA (Y.M.) AND GONZALES (A.), PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 352

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AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING THE NEGROS ISLAND REGION, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1           **SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “Negros Island Region Act”.

2           **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the avowed policy of the State to promote efficiency  
3 in the government and to accelerate social and economic development. Toward this end, the  
4 State shall continue to encourage administrative decentralization to strengthen the autonomy  
5 of local governments, enhance the delivery of public services, and promote a more equitable  
6 distribution of opportunities and resources in the regions toward a strong and self-reliant  
7 nation.

8           **SEC. 3. Creation of Negros Island Region.** – The Negros Island Region (NIR) is hereby  
9 created composed of provinces, including the cities, municipalities and barangays located in the  
10 provinces of Negros Oriental, Negros Occidental, and Siquijor, including Bacolod City.

11           **SEC. 4. Negros Island Region Technical Working Group.** – A Negros Island Technical  
12 Working Group (TWG) is hereby constituted composed of representatives from the Office of  
13 the President, the Department of Budget and Management, the Department of the Interior and  
14 Local Government, the representatives of the Office of the Governor of the provinces of Negros  
15 Oriental, Negros Occidental and Siquijor, and all the elected District Representatives of the said  
16 provinces, including the Representative of Bacolod City.

17           The TWG shall formulate strategic plans to put in place the institutional arrangements  
18 for the NIR; recommend to the Office of the President the preferred location of the Regional  
19 Center; arrange the requirements for the organizational development, staffing, and budgeting  
20 of regional line and regulatory agencies, as well as the imperatives for development planning  
21 and investment programming.

22           **SEC. 5. Department of the Interior of Local Government as NIR Secretariat.** –  
23 Notwithstanding the activities of the NIR-TWG, and to ensure the smooth transition of basic  
24 services, the DILG is hereby designated as the Secretariat of the TWG until the latter has  
25 completed its task. The plans and recommendations of the TWG shall be approved by the  
26 President.

27           **SEC. 6. Role of Government Agencies.** – All departments, bureaus, offices, agencies, and  
28 instrumentalities of the national government, including government-owned or controlled

1 corporations and government financial institutions, are hereby directed to extend full  
2 assistance to the NIR-TWG in support of its functions and activities.

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4 **SEC. 7. Appropriations.** – The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act  
5 shall be charged against the current year’s appropriations of the Department of the Interior and  
6 Local Government. Thereafter, such amount shall be included in the annual General  
7 Appropriations Act.

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9 **SEC. 8. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations  
10 which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

11 **SEC. 9. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the  
12 *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,