

Republic of the Philippines
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
BANGSAMORO TRANSITION AUTHORITY
Cotabato City

Third Regular Session

BTA PARLIAMENT
BTA Parliament Bill No. 110

Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
Parliament
BILLS AND INDEX DIVISION
RECEIVED
Name: Sonaya Bellindang Signature: [Signature]
Date: June 14, 2021 Time: 9:00PM

Introduced by

MP ENGR. BAIN TAN ADIL-AMPATUAN, CSEE
MP ATTY. LAISA M. ALAMIA, CESE, RN
MP AMILBAHAR S. MAWALLIL
MP ATTY. SUHARTO M. AMBOLOD TO, CSEE, MNSA
MP ENGR. DON MUSTAPHA A. LOONG, JD, CESE
MP ATTY. RASOL Y. MITMUG, JR, CESE
MP RASUL E. ISMAEL

AN ACT CREATING THE NEW GEOGRAPHIC AREAS DISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Explanatory Note

Among the many functions of the government is to provide and manage quality infrastructure facilities and services that are responsive to the needs of the people. Infrastructure is crucially important to foster the region's economic development and prosperity. With this, it is necessary that government offices are readily accessible in areas that need them most.

This Act seeks to establish a New Geographic Areas District Engineering Office (DEO) in Cotabato City, covering all its thirty-seven (37) barangays and the 63 barangays in Cotabato province. Currently, there is no DEO in the City. The former DEO had been abolished following the official inclusion of Cotabato City in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). The residents of Cotabato City and the 63 barangays of Cotabato province voted for their inclusion in the BARMM through a plebiscite last February 5-6, 2019. Nearly two years later, Cotabato City and the 63 barangays of Cotabato province have officially become a part of the BARMM.

With the passage of this Bill, the New Geographic Areas DEO will be able to provide quality public infrastructure and maintenance services in its area of jurisdiction. It is expected to bring important benefits to the lives of those residing and those who are doing business in Cotabato City and the 63 barangays of Cotabato province. Improvements in the quality of infrastructure services will also help cut the cost of doing business and will result in positive economic value that can stimulate job creation, encourage private investments, improve productivity and ensure the well-being of the Bangsamoro people.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

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Be it enacted by the Bangsamoro Transition Authority Parliament assembled:

SECTION 1. CREATION.- There shall be created under the supervision of the Ministry of Public Works (MPW), a district engineering office for the City of Cotabato and 63 barangays of Cotabato province to be known as New Geographic Areas District Engineering Office (NGADEO).

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY – The Bangsamoro Government shall maintain an engineering and construction arm and continuously develop its technology, for the purpose of ensuring the safety of all infrastructure facilities and securing for all public works the highest efficiency and the most appropriate quality in construction.

SECTION 3. LOCATION AND COVERAGE- The District Engineering Office created under this Act shall be located in the City of Cotabato, Province of Maguindanao, covering thirty-seven (37) barangays and sixty-three (63) barangays in Cotabato province. It shall assume jurisdiction over all infrastructure and public works in these areas.

SECTION 4. FUNCTIONS – The District Engineering Office shall be responsible for local roads, flood control, water resources development system, and other public works in the City of Cotabato and 63 barangays in Cotabato province and shall exercise the following functions:

- 1) Implement policies, guidelines and procedures for the effective implementation of construction, and maintenance of infrastructure projects;
- 2) Inspect, verify, monitor, supervise and evaluate various infrastructure projects in accordance with existing standards and guidelines;
- 3) Implement various infrastructure projects in their respective areas of jurisdiction;
- 4) Conduct, inspect and assess the condition of roads, bridges, and other infrastructure projects and submit a report thereon to the MPW;
- 5) Prepare, review and evaluate plans, programs of work, and estimate including reports and submit a report thereon to the MPW;

- 6) Prepare, evaluate, and endorse requests for funding to the MPW for the repair/rehabilitation of damaged infrastructure facilities brought about by calamities;
- 7) Undertake the management, repair, maintenance and rehabilitation of construction and maintenance property, plant and equipment;
- 8) Undertake regular monitoring of the progress of programs and project implementation including implementation problems and issues for timely resolutions; and
- 9) Perform such other duties and responsibilities as may be assigned by the Director-General and/or the Minister of the MPW.

SECTION 5. DISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICE AND COMPOSITION – The District Engineering Office shall be established at the City of Cotabato. It shall be headed by a District Engineer who shall be responsible for the efficient and effective discharge of the duties and functions of the District Office. Within his/her defined powers, s/he shall exercise functional and administrative control and supervision over district operations. S/he shall also perform such other related duties and responsibilities as may be assigned or delegated by the Minister or as may be required by law. S/he shall be appointed by the Chief Minister of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

SECTION 6. ORGANIZATION AND STAFFING – Pending the approval of the plantilla and appointments of personnel, the City District Engineer shall propose organizational structure and staffing of the office. New Geographic Areas District Engineering Office shall be manned by former officials and employees of Cotabato City District Engineering Office with employees from MPW Regional Office and other DEOs in the BARMM as may be assigned by the Minister of the MPW, in order to effect a gradual transition.

SECTION 7. APPROPRIATIONS. - The regular budget of the newly created New Geographic Areas District Engineering Office shall be included in the total budget of MPW and which shall be allotted to the district office immediately upon the release of funds for the purpose.

SECTION 8. SEPARABILITY. – If any provisions of this Act or the application of such provision to any person or circumstances be declared unconstitutional or contrary to the provisions of RA 11054 or the Bangsamoro Organic Law, the remainder of this Act or the application of such provision to other person or circumstances shall not be affected by such declaration.

SECTION 9. EFFECTIVITY. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from the date of its publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

Adopted,

Authors:


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