



July 2016 - June 2019

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## POSITION PAPER

### House Bill 7198

#### AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN NATION-BUILDING THROUGH THE INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF STRATEGIC VOLUNTEERISM BASED MULTI-SECTORAL PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK, IN ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS AND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS IN THE COUNTRY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

The League of Provinces of the Philippines recognizes the spirit and intent of House Bill 7198, entitled, "AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN NATION-BUILDING THROUGH THE INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF STRATEGIC VOLUNTEERISM BASED MULTI-SECTORAL PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK, IN ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS AND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS IN THE COUNTRY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES," as being laudable and anchored on Filipino culture.

However, it is our position that we do not need another law that seeks and mandates coordination and cooperation between and among NGAs, LGUs, and NGOs and POs.

The Local Government Code of 1991 (R.A. 7160), and other laws subsequently passed, has sufficiently provided the framework and parameters on how the public sector and private sector may work together and how the interest and agenda of NGOs and POs may be incorporated in local development plans or may be adopted in local legislation.

Another law would only add to the clutter requiring the creation of coordinating councils under several other laws already mandating the same.

Besides, it may only need an executive order to enjoin NGAs and LGUs to spearhead Volunteerism in Nation Building (VNB) programs.

The enactment of another law that legislates the institutionalization of VNB would surely be lost in the more urgent need to fully implement the 1991 LGC, particularly the release of the share of LGUs in national internal revenue and the devolution of power and resources under the 1987 Constitution for genuine local autonomy and development.

Respectfully submitted.

GOV. RYAN LUIS V. SINGSON  
*National President*