

11 December 2019

**REPRESENTATIVE WES GATCHALIAN**

Chairperson  
Committee on Trade and Industry  
House of Representatives  
Batasang Pambansa Complex  
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

Dear **Representative Gatchalian**:

We are pleased to submit the Department's position on House Bill No. 383, entitled:

**“An Act Establishing the Department of Trade and Industry Provincial Office of Compostela Valley Province and Appropriating Funds Therefor”**

This is without prejudice to the Department's submission of additional inputs.

With my best regards.

Very truly yours,



**RAMON M. LOPEZ**  
Secretary

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

***Department of Trade and Industry***

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DTI Position on

**House Bill No. 383**

**“An Act Establishing the Department of Trade and Industry Provincial Office of Compostela Valley Province and Appropriating Funds Therefor”**

The Department welcomes the intention of the proposed bill to facilitate the trade and industrial growth in the Compostela Valley province by mandating the DTI to establish its presence in the province. However, we note that the DTI-Compostela Valley Provincial Office was already created with the approval of the Department’s Rationalization Plan, pursuant to Executive Order No. 366, s.2004, on 17 October 2013. As of date, the DTI-Compostela Valley Provincial Office has a full staff complement and an annual budget derived from the DTI’s annual appropriation but it still lacks plantilla positions for the staff as well as its own building to permanently base day-to-day operations. The Department highlights that the lack of permanent personnel and office buildings is not exclusive to the DTI-Compostela Valley Provincial Office as other regional, provincial, and even the main offices of the DTI are also constrained by these same problems.

The DTI opines that there are already existing mechanisms that would best satisfy the objectives of the proposed bill without having to go through legislative recourse, to wit:

- (i) Securing additional plantilla positions would be addressed through an approval from the Department of Budget and Management (DBM); and
- (ii) Appropriation of funds for property acquisition and building construction would be addressed by including such items in the annual formulation of the General Appropriations Act.

The Department supports the objectives of the proposed bill and forwards its specific inputs for consideration.

*Ruyapin Chay*

**Bureau of Trade and Industrial Policy Research**

**11 December 2019**

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