

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

Thirteenth Congress
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **2868**



Introduced by Honorable Catalino V. Figueroa

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to provide for the construction of a new provincial jail in the Municipality of Catbalogan, Province of Samar to be known as the Samar Provincial Jail.

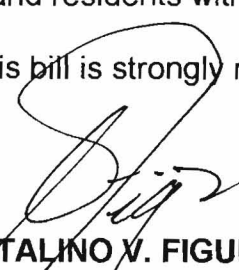
The 1987 Constitution, under the Declaration of Principles and State Policies, provide that the state values the dignity of every human beings and are therefore entitled to human rights as any other individual. They should be treated with the same consideration in their living conditions as other human beings.

The existing provincial jail of Samar was constructed way back in the 30's. The jail was designed for a small number of prisoners and detainees. This results in congestion, and consequently renders the facilities therein unfit for human habitation. This condition is contrary to the enunciated declaration in the constitution against subjecting prisoners or detainees to physical, psychological or degrading punishment.

Moreover, the present thrust of penal reforms leads towards reformation and rehabilitation of prisoners and detainees. Lack of space and unhealthy surroundings have been found to cause prisoners and other detainees to be irritable and troublesome, attitudes which most often provoke them to riots and breakouts.

The residents of Catbalogan have been clamoring for the construction and relocation of the provincial jail to a new site from the *poblacion*. The location of the jail within the *poblacion* causes anxieties and fears to the residents every time there are jailbreaks. Furthermore, the filthy and ill-kept conditions of the jail produce ill effects to the health of students and residents within its vicinity.

Hence, the immediate approval for this bill is strongly recommended.


CATALINO V. FIGUEROA

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**AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW PROVINCIAL JAIL
BUILDING IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CATBALOGAN, PROVINCE OF
SAMAR TO BE KNOWN AS THE SAMAR PROVINCIAL JAIL AND,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.**

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

Section 1. There shall be constructed, under the direct supervision of the Department of Public Works and Highways, a new provincial jail building in the Municipality of Catbalogan, Province of Samar, to be known as the Samar Provincial Jail Building to be located at a site selected by the *Sangguniang Panlalawigan* of the Province of Samar.

Section 2. The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations for the Department of Justice under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such amount as may be necessary for the repairs and maintenance of the jail shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Section 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,