



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
1ST Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **4281**

Introduced by:
REP. FRANCISCO T. MATUGAS
1ST District, Surigao del Norte (Siargao Island)

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to transfer the supervision and control over all provincial jails from the provincial government to the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP).

Peace and order has always been a perennial issue plaguing the national as well as the local government units. As one of the pillars of our law enforcement system, the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology plays a very special role in the rehabilitation of persons who had violated our laws. It helps in transforming criminals into becoming more productive members our society.

Under Section 61 of Republic Act No. 6975, otherwise known as the "Department of the Interior and Local Government Act 1990," all provincial jails are placed under the supervision and control of the provincial government while the city and municipal jails are supervised and controlled by the BJMP. With this set up, it is difficult to establish an integrated approach to jail management as overall coordination between the national leadership of the BJMP and the provincial government vis-à-vis jail management can hardly be done.

At present, the BJMP has four (4) major programs, namely:

- 1) Inmates custody, security and control program;
- 2) Inmates welfare and development program (Rehabilitation programs);
- 3) Decongestion program; and
- 4) Good governance

With the provincial government controlling the provincial jails, the BJMP cannot implement its policies and programs over these jails. Hence, there is lack of uniformity in the training of jail personnel; livelihood projects, educational and vocational trainings vary and even the custody and security of inmates are not assured, thus making good governance impossible to achieve.

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

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FRANCISCO T. MATUGAS



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Fifteenth Congress
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1st District, Surigao del Norte (Siargao Island)

AN ACT
TRANSFERRING THE SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OVER PROVINCIAL JAILS FROM
THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT TO THE BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT AND
PENODOLOGY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6975, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE "DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT
OF 1990"

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 61, Chapter V of Republic Act No. 6975 is hereby
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "SEC. 61. *Powers and Functions*- The Bureau of Jail Management and
4 Penology (BJMP) shall exercise supervision and control over all provincial, city
5 and municipal jails. [The provincial jails shall be supervised and controlled by
6 the provincial government within its jurisdiction, whose expenses shall be
7 subsidized by the National Government for not more than three (3) years
8 after the effectivity of this Act]."

9
10 SEC. 2. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the
11 Official Gazette or in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

12
13 Approved,