

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

16th Congress

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 129



Introduced by Reps. RANEO E. ABU, 2nd District, Batangas;
MARK LLANDRO L. MENDOZA, 4th District, Batangas;
SONNY P. COLLANTES, 3rd District, Batangas; and
EILEEN ERMITA-BUHAIN, 1st District, Batangas

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to create a separate Congressional District for Batangas City, the capital of the Province of Batangas.

The creation of a separate Congressional District for Batangas City complies with the mandate set forth by the Constitution, Article VI, Section 5, paragraph 3 of the 1987 Constitution, provides:

"Each legislative district shall comprise, as far as practicable, continuous, compact, and adjacent territory. Each city with a population of at least two hundred fifty thousand, or each province, shall have at least one representative."
(*Emphasis supplied*)

With 105 Barangays occupying a land area of 27,686.73 hectares, Batangas City is the home of 295,231 persons based on the 2007 Census of Population as declared official by the President of the Philippines under Proclamation No. 1489 dated April 16, 2008. Considering the City's annual population growth and inward migration, the City's population today should be approximately 350,000.

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Based on National Statistical Coordination Board, registered voters of the 2nd Legislative District of Batangas as of May 2010 was 346,715. In May 13, 2013 Elections, 237,178 actually voted.

Batangas City, or Lungsod ng Batangas, was founded and named Batangan in 1581 by Spanish missionaries. It was formally declared a City on July 23, 1969 pursuant to Republic Act No. 5495, otherwise known as the "Charter of Batangas City".

Batangas City is the largest and the Capital city of the Province of Batangas. Known as the "International Port City of South Luzon", it is classified as one of the fastest urbanizing cities in the Philippines.

Since its proclamation as a City on July 23, 1969, Batangas City has become the economic focal point of trading, commercial and industrial activities in Southern Luzon. It is presently classified as a Regional Growth Center and identified as one of the sites for the Regional Agro-Industrial Center and Special Economic Zones as mandated by the Medium Term Philippine Development Plan and the Ecozone Act of 1995. Batangas City is also one of the nation's top revenue generating cities. In 2009, Batangas City had an Annual Budget of P1,236,418,599.55. It hosts the Pilipinas Shell Corporation, one of the biggest oil refineries in the Philippines which can produce 250,000 barrels per day. With Caltex, Batangas City is the source of 60% of the country's fuel requirements. It is also hosting the first three (3) power plants using natural gas, namely: Kepco Ilijan, San Lorenzo and Sta. Rita of First Gas with a combined capacity of 2,700 Megawatts that supply 50% power requirements of Metro Manila. Located 99 kilometers South of Manila, Batangas City has one of the best natural harbors, and was declared as International Port, and the start of Philippine Nautical Highway. Batangas City is also the source of 25% supply of fish and marine products, 30% of eggs and 20% of chicken and pork, for Metro Manila.



Considering the Constitutional mandate in Article VI, Section 5, paragraph 3 of the 1987 Constitution, the population of Batangas City more than qualifies to be a separate Congressional District and it has the right to have its own Representative. After the separation, the Second Congressional District of the Province will still continue to meet the Constitutional requirements to be represented in Congress.

This Bill was already approved by the House of Representatives on May 16, 2011, and was transmitted to and received by the Senate on May 24, 2011.



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Representative
2nd District, Batangas



MARK LLANDRO L. MENDOZA
Representative
4th District, Batangas



SONNY P. COLLANTES
Representative
3rd District, Batangas



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**AN ACT SEPARATING
FROM THE SECOND LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT
OF THE PROVINCE OF BATANGAS TO CONSTITUTE THE
LONE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF BATANGAS**

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

SECTION 1. *Lone Legislative District.* – The City of Batangas is hereby separated from the Second Legislative District of the Province of Batangas to constitute the Lone Legislative District of the City of Batangas which shall commence upon the effectivity of this Act.

SEC. 2. *Incumbent Representative.* – The incumbent Representative of the Second Legislative District of the Province of Batangas shall continue to represent the said district until the new Representative of the Lone Legislative District of the City of Batangas shall have been elected and qualified.

SEC. 3. *Rules and Regulations.* – The Commission on Elections shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

SEC. 4. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 5. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in any newspaper of general circulation.

APPROVED,