



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



SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2217

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

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill, which was first filed in the 15th Congress and re-filed *in toto* in the present Congress, 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 government 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 crucial role in the rehabilitation of persons who had violated our laws. It helps in transforming criminals into becoming more productive members of 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, immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized capital 'F' followed by a capital 'M' and a capital 'T'.

FRANCISCO T. MATUGAS



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Sixteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2217

Introduced By:
REP. FRANCISCO T. MATUGAS
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 PENOLOGY, 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
4 Management and Penology (BJMP) shall exercise supervision
5 and control over all provincial, city and municipal jails. [The
6 provincial jails shall be supervised and controlled by the
7 provincial government within its jurisdiction, whose expenses
8 shall be subsidized by the National Government for not more
9 than three (3) years after the affectivity of this Act]."

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

13
14 Approved,