

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

**SIXTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **3149**



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Introduced by: **REP. WILFREDO S. CAMINERO**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The compelling and urgent reasons for the creation of the Seventh Legislative District of the Province of Cebu have been fully deliberated and favorably acted upon by the House of Representatives not once but twice, first in the 14<sup>th</sup> Congress and the second in the 15<sup>th</sup> Congress.

In the recent 15<sup>th</sup> Congress, the eminent author of the House Bill proposing its creation, then Deputy Speaker Pablo P. Garcia, succinctly summarized the rationale for the creation of the said seventh legislative district of Cebu as follows:

“The Province of Cebu (excluding its capital, Cebu City, and Lapu Lapu City) has presently six (6) Legislative districts distributed among seven (7) cities and 44 municipalities as follows:”

“1<sup>st</sup> District – with three (3) cities and three (3) municipalities”

“2<sup>nd</sup> District – with fifteen (15) municipalities”

“3<sup>rd</sup> District – with one (1) city and six (6) municipalities”

“4<sup>th</sup> District – with one (1) city and Eight (8) municipalities”

“5<sup>th</sup> District – with one (1) city and ten (10) municipalities”

“6<sup>th</sup> District – with one (1) city and two (2) municipalities”

“The above six (6) legislative districts have an aggregate population of 2,757,580 as of August 2007 excluding that of the Cities of Cebu and Lapu Lapu with populations of 798,809 and 292,530, respectively. Cebu City has two (2) legislative districts while Lapu Lapu City has one district representation in Congress.”

"With a total population of 2,757,580 for its six (6) legislative districts, Cebu Province is under-represented and is justified to have more than its present six (6). Compared to the other provinces and cities in the country, in terms of population in relation to number of districts, such as: (1), Davao oriental two (2) districts, Agusan del Norte two (2) districts, Makati City two (2) districts, Marikina City two (2) districts and San Juan City with one (1), it is apparent that it is but fair and equitable that the Province of Cebu should have more than six (6) legislative districts, possibly, as many as twelve (12) representative districts."

"Recently, the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of the Province of Cebu passed a Resolution asking the six (6) Representatives of the Province to work for the passage of a law increasing the number of legislative districts for the Province."

"Unfortunately, the incumbent Representatives of the Province of Cebu have encountered serious difficulties and problems in the course of the process of consultation with their constituents in the municipalities and cities that may be affected by the proposed redistricting. For example, the redistricting will involve the segregation of some cities and municipalities from one district so as to incorporate them with another new district. This may be necessary in order to comply with the constitutional requirement of **"contiguous, compact, and adjacent territory"**. This is the common and vigorous objection of the constituents in the affected cities and municipalities, and the Representatives concerned have to respect the opinion and sentiments of their respective constituents. Thus the proposed redistricting, particularly in the five (5) legislative districts in the Province of Cebu, appears to be extremely difficult if not impossible to achieve at this time. However, the creation of at least one additional district for the Province of Cebu may be achieved in the second legislative district of the Province."

"The second legislative district of Cebu is located in the southern tail-end of the elongated island of Cebu. Its land area is almost one third (1/3) of that of the entire province. It is composed of 15 municipalities - more than one third (1/3) of the forty four (44) municipalities of the Province. It has the biggest number of barangays at two hundred eight four (284)."

"It has the longest coastline, its southeastern side faces the island of Bohol and its southwestern side faces the island of Negros. It has 246.8 kilometers of national roads, the longest among the six legislative districts of the Province. It has a total population of 401,046 as of August 2007."

"In the allocation and distribution of national resources and services are more often than not reckoned by legislative districts. The PDAF is one example. It is easy to see that the allocation for the second district of Cebu is spread thin among its fifteen (15) municipalities and 284 barangays. And yet, these are the very poor municipalities and barangays that are most in need of a bigger share of the national resources and services for their development and upliftment."

"It is now an accepted fact of political life that the job of a congressman of the district is two-fold to wit; (1) legislation and (2) constituency services. With respect to the second part of the job, it is clear that the congressman of the 2<sup>nd</sup> district will have a much more difficult time discharging his constituency services. He has to attend to the needs of fifteen (15) municipalities, and 284 barangays, which cover an area that is almost 1/3 of the total land area of the Province of Cebu."

"In view of all the foregoing it is but just and proper to create, in the meantime, one (1) additional congressional district for the Province of Cebu which shall be composed of seven (7) out of the (15) municipalities of the present second congressional district of the said province. The second congressional district of the Province of Cebu shall, thereafter, be composed of the other eight (8) municipalities of said congressional district."

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**WILFREDO S. CAMINERO**  
Representative  
Second District, Province of Cebu

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SIXTEENTH CONGRESS  
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Introduced by: **REPRESENTATIVE WILFREDO S. CAMINERO**

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**AN ACT**  
**CREATING AN ADDITIONAL LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT IN THE PROVINCE**  
**OF CEBU TO BE KNOWN AS THE SEVENTH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT**

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

**SECTION 1. *Seventh Legislative District in the Province of Cebu***- There is hereby created an additional legislative district in the Province of Cebu to be known as the Seventh Legislative District by reapportioning the current Second Legislative District to commence in the next national and local elections after the effectivity of this Act. Henceforth, the following municipalities shall comprise the Seventh Legislative District, to wit:

1. Dumanjug;
2. Ronda;
3. Alcantara;
4. Moalboal;
5. Badian;
6. Alegria;
7. Malabuyoc; and
8. Ginatilan

The current Second Legislative District of the Province of Cebu, which shall continue to be designated as such, shall be composed of the following municipalities, to wit:

1. Argao;

2. Dalaguete;
3. Alcoy;
4. Bolijoon;
5. Oslob;
6. Santander; and
7. Samboan

**SEC. 2. *Rules and Regulations.*** – The Commission on Elections shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

**SEC. 3. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 4. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in any newspaper of general circulation.

**Approved,**