

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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

House Bill No. 297



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INTRODUCED BY Rep. GREG G. GASATAYA

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Article XIII Section 1 of the 1987 Constitution states that “The Congress shall give highest priority to the enactment of measures that protect and enhance the right of all the people to human dignity, reduce social, economic, and political inequalities, and remove cultural inequities by equitably diffusing wealth and political power for the common good.”

Article VI Section 5 Paragraph 4 of the same Constitution also mandates Congress to make a reapportionment of legislative districts within three (3) years following the return of every national census. This is to ensure that a city or a province is given proper and adequate representation in the House of Representatives in the event of increases in its population, at a ratio on a Representative for every 250,000 inhabitants.

This bill seeks to create the 1st and 2nd Legislative Districts of Bacolod City by apportioning the 61 Barangays comprising the Lone District of Bacolod City. As per the August 1, 2015 Census of the Philippine Statistics Authority, Bacolod City has a population of 561,875 with an average growth rate of 1.78% annually.

The apportionment of the Lone District of Bacolod City into two Legislative Districts has become a matter of necessity. It is mandated by the highest law of the land. It is to ensure that efficient and effective public service is rendered to the whole populace of Bacolod City, that the City has adequate Representation in Congress and so that Bacolod City receives its fair share of the National Government's resources.

As such, the approval of this Bill is earnestly sought.

**REP. GREG G. GASATAYA**  
*Lone District of Bacolod City*

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AN ACT

**CREATING THE FIRST AND SECOND LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT IN THE CITY OF BACOLOD BY APPORTIONING THE LONE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OF BACOLOD CITY**

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

**SECTION 1. Apportionment of the Lone District of Bacolod City.** – There shall be created the First and Second Legislative District of Bacolod City by apportioning the 61 barangays comprising the Lone Legislative District of Bacolod City.

**SECTION 2. Composition of the First and Second Legislative Districts.** – The City of Bacolod shall have two (2) Legislative Districts. Barangays 1 – 31, 33, 41, Alangilan, Banago, Bata, Estefania, Granada, Mandalagan, Monte Vista, Villamonte and Vista Alegre shall comprise the First Legislative District. Barangays 32, 34 – 40, Alijis, Cabug, Felisa, Handumanan, Mansilingan, Pahanocoy, Punta Taytay, Singcang, Sum-ag, Taculing and Tangub shall comprise the Second Legislative District.

**SECTION 3. Election of Representatives.** – The election for the Representatives for the First and Second Legislative Districts of Bacolod City as created under this Act shall take place in the next national and local elections after the effectivity of this Act.

**SECTION 4. The Sangguniang Panglungsod.** – In accordance with this Act, there shall be elected in the next national and local elections after the effectivity of this Act, eight (8) Sangguniang Panlungsod members from each Legislative district.

**SECTION 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – The Commission on Elections shall issue the rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

**SECTION 6. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, orders and rules and regulations or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 7. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

APPROVED,