



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

Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5499



Introduced by **HON. MUJIV S. HATAMAN** of the Lone District of Basilan

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Our citizens deserve fair and equitable representation in national law-making bodies such as the House of Representatives.

Article VI, Section 5, Paragraphs 3 and 4 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution states that:

“(3) Each legislative district shall comprise, as far as practicable, contiguous, 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.

(4) Within three years following the return of every census, the Congress shall make a reapportionment of legislative districts based on the standards provided in this section.”

At present, the province of Basilan has a population that has grown to over 556,586, if the 2020 Census of the Philippine Statistics Authority were to be believed. It is the fourth largest province in BARMM in terms of land area and is composed of two component cities and 11 municipalities.

Aside from the remarkable population growth, the Commission on Population and Development recognizes Basilan, alongside Lanao del Sur and Maguindanao, as the three (3) provinces that raised 121,000 families out of economic strain – at a time when the COVID-19 pandemic is ravaging every economy in the world.

At present, the province of Basilan has only one representative in Congress serving a population of almost 600,000. It is high time that Basilan gets another representative to promote the welfare of Basileños.

This bill seeks to reapportion the province of Basilan into two legislative districts. This measure was filed during the 18th Congress but did not get pass the committee level.

It is the hope of this representation that in the 19th Congress, this will be passed. Two representatives for Basilan in the House of Representatives mean more officials fighting for its citizens' rights.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this measure is earnestly sought.


HON. MUJIV S. HATAMAN
Representative
Lone District of Basilan



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**AN ACT REAPPORTIONING THE LONE DISTRICT OF PROVINCE OF BASILAN
THEREBY CREATING THE FIRST (1ST) AND SECOND (2ND) LEGISLATIVE
DISTRICTS OF BASILAN**

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

SECTION 1. Reapportioning of the Lone Legislative District – The Lone Legislative District of the Province of Basilan is hereby reapportioned in order to create the Two (2) Legislative Districts of the Province of Basilan to commence in the next national and local elections after the effectivity of this Act. The legislative districts of the Province of Basilan shall now be composed of the following:

a. First Legislative District – The First Legislative District shall be composed of the following:

1. ISABELA CITY;
2. LANTAWAN MUNICIPALITY;
3. MALUSO MUNICIPALITY;
4. HADJI MUHTAMAD MUNICIPALITY;
5. TABUAN-LASA MUNICIPALITY;

b. Second Legislative District – The Second Legislative District shall be composed of the following:

1. LAMITAN CITY;
2. AKBAR MUNICIPALITY;
3. HADJI MOHAMMAD AJUL MUNICIPALITY;
4. TIPO-TIPO MUNICIPALITY;
5. TUBURAN MUNICIPALITY;
6. UNGKAYA PUKAN MUNICIPALITY;
7. SUMISIP MUNICIPALITY; and
8. AL-BARKA MUNICIPALITY.

SEC. 2. Holdover. - The incumbent Representative of the present Lone Legislative District of the Province of Basilan shall continue to represent and serve the said district until the new Representatives for the two (2) districts shall have been elected and qualified.

SEC. 3. Rules and Regulations. - The Commission on Election shall issue the Implementing Rules and Regulations to carry out the Implementation of this Act within 30 days after its effectivity.

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 the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,