

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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **5979**



Introduced by Representative LORETO B. ACHARON

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks the establishment of three (3) subordinate fire stations in the Lone District of the City of General Santos under the operational control of the General Santos City Fire Station of the Bureau of Fire Prevention (BFP).

The City of General Santos is ranked as 15th among the most populous cities in the country and 4th largest in Mindanao with a population of 697,315 as of May 2020.

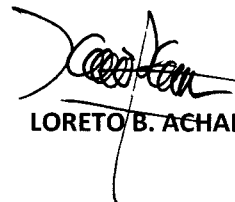
The City is the center of commerce and industry in the SOCCSKSARGEN Region, and home to no less than SEVENTY-SIX (76) educational buildings, ELEVEN (11) hospitals, SIXTY-EIGHT (68) hotels, SEVENTY-TWO (72) apartment buildings, ONE HUNDRED and FIFTY-TWO (152) lodging and rooming houses, FIVE (5) dormitories, TWO (2) theaters, SIXTY-FIVE (65) commercial and other banks, FIVE (5) markets, FIVE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED TWENTY-NINE (5,929) single and two-family dwellings and TEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED SEVENTY-EIGHT (10,578) commercial buildings.

These structures are on top of the existing TWO HUNDRED FOURTEEN (214) government buildings, ONE (1) city detention and correctional facility, TWO (2) public transport facilities, ONE (1) general purpose seaport or wharf, ONE (1) major fishing post-harvest port facility, ONE (1) airport of international standard, TWO (2) parks and plazas as well as EIGHTY-THREE (83) special structures such as communication towers.

Fishing is a major economic activity such that six (6) of the eight (8) tuna canneries in the country is located in General Santos City, along with a hundred other industries allied with the fishing industry, a distinction that earned the locality as the Tuna Capital of the Philippines.

The rapid urbanization of the City of General Santos most specifically in the urban barangays necessitates the creation of the BFP District Office to assure the business community and inhabitants that the men and women of the Bureau of Fire Protection has the manpower, competence, and firefighting capacity to ensure their safety, their families more importantly, properties, businesses, and other possessions.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


LORETO B. ACHARON

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AN
ACT ESTABLISHING THREE (3) ADDITIONAL SUBORDINATE FIRE STATIONS IN THE
CITY OF GENERAL SANTOS UNDER THE GENERAL SANTOS CITY FIRE STATION OF
THE BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. An additional three (3) subordinate fire stations of the Bureau of Fire Prevention is hereby established in the City of General Santos, under the operational control and administration of the General Santos City Fire Station, Bureau of Fire Prevention (BFP).

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) shall immediately include in the department's program the operationalization of the additional subordinate fire stations, the initial funding of which shall be charged against the current year's appropriation of the existing General Santos City Fire Station. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued operations of the General Santos City Fire Station and all its subordinate fire stations shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 4. The Secretary of the DILG shall issue such rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 5. Effectivity – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

APPROVED.