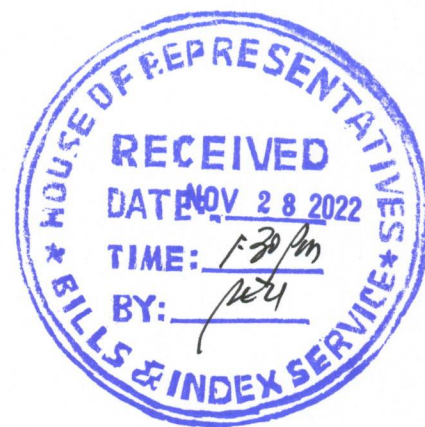


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6403



INTRODUCED BY HONORABLE KHYMER ADAN T. OLASO

AN ACT
REAPPORTIONING THE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS AND THE SANGGUNIANG
PANLUNGSOD OF ZAMBOANGA CITY

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill proposes the reapportionment of Zamboanga City into four (4) legislative districts with 1 Representative to the House of Representatives per district and five (5) members to the Sangguniang Panlungsod from each of the aforementioned districts.

Data from the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) indicate the following trend in the population of Zamboanga City, as follows:

Year	Population
1960	131,489
1970	199,901
1980	343,722
1990	442,345
2000	601,794
2010	807,129
2022	977,234

With a population of 977,234 based on the 2020 census of population, Zamboanga City “posted a population growth rate of 2.68%.¹ If this trend is to be followed, the City would have a population of 1,003,424 in 2021 and 1,030,316 in 2022.

Since 2007, Zamboanga City was provided with two (2) Congressional Districts and has remained so until now. Moreover, there are 8 representatives to the Sangguniang Panlungsod from each of the 2 legislative district which roughly translates to 1 member of the sangguniang representing 61,077 residents in the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Zamboanga City.

As proportional representation is the very essence of democracy, this bill envisions to broaden base democracy not only by the diversification of the political tendencies, but also as a strategy to attract insurgent and marginalized groups to join the system. Accurate representation will promote inclusiveness and dialogue, while actually enhancing the stability of our democratic system of governance.

Verily, Article VI, Section 5, paragraphs 3 and 4 of the 1987 Constitution provides:

“Section 5. (1) The House of Representatives shall be composed of not more than two hundred and fifty members, unless otherwise fixed by law, who shall be

¹ <https://psa.gov.ph/population-and-housing/node/165011>

elected from legislative districts apportioned among the provinces, cities and the Metropolitan Manila area in accordance with the number of their respective inhabitants, and on the basis of a uniform and progressive ratio, and those who, as provided by law, shall be elected through a party-list system of registered national, regional and sectoral parties or organizations.

(2) x x x x

(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."*

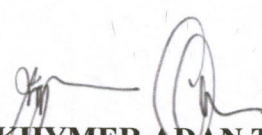
The purpose of this constitutional provision is to ensure proportional representation in the highest policy-making body of the land – Congress of the Philippines. It is in this light that the Supreme Court, while referring to *Mariano v COMELEC*², held in the case of *Aquino v COMELEC*³ that **"while Sec. 5 (3), Article VI of the Constitution requires a city to have a minimum population of 250,000 to be entitled to a representative, it does not have to increase its population by another 250,000 to be entitled to an additional district."**

Consistent with the above-cited cases, Zamboanga City whose population in 2020 is already 977,234 must have four (4) Representatives in the House of Representatives, representing one Representative per legislative district, and 5 members each to the Sangguniang Panlungsod from each of the 4 legislative districts.

In consonance with the constitutional principle of proper democratic representation and "based on the standard provided" under Article VI, Section 5 of the 1987 Constitution, the 1st District of Zamboanga City shall maintain its 19 barangays under its present composition with a population of 256,220 (vs. 243,020 inhabitants based on the 2020 census of population), the 2nd District shall retain its 22 barangays with a population of 254,835 (vs. 241,706 inhabitants based on the 2020 census of population). The 3rd District shall have 46 barangays with a total population of 265,107 (vs. 251,449 inhabitants based on the 2020 census of population) and the 4th District shall have 11 barangays with a total population of 254,594 (vs. 241,059 inhabitants based on the 2020 census of population). The barangays in each of the districts are contiguous, compact and adjacent territories of each other.

Zamboanga City, being one of the most populous cities in the country, deserves an increase in representation in the House of Representatives and in the Sangguniang Panlungsod to ensure the efficient and effective delivery of basic services to its inhabitants.

It is in this light that this bill is being filed. The immediate passage of this bill is earnestly requested.


KHYMER ADAN T. OLASO
Representative
1st District, Zamboanga City

² *Mariano, Jr. v. COMELEC*, G.R. NO. 118577 (March 7, 1995)

³ *Aquino v. COMELEC*, G.R. No. 189793 (April 7, 2010)

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AN ACT
REAPPORTIONING THE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS AND THE SANGGUNIANG
PANLUNGSOD OF ZAMBOANGA CITY

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

SECTION 1. Zamboanga City, which shall have four (4) legislative districts to commence in the national and local elections after the effectivity of this Act, is hereby reapportioned as follows:

First Legislative District

Ayala	Malagutay
Baluno	Pamucutan
Calarian	Patalon
Capisan	Recodo
Cawit	San Roque
Dulian (Upper Pasonanca)	Sinubung
La Paz	Sinunoc
Labuan	Talisayan
Limpapa	Tulungatung
Maasin	

Second Legislative District

Baliwasan	Barangay Zone II (Pob.)
Cabatangan	Barangay Zone III (Pob.)
Campo Islam	Barangay Zone IV (Pob.)
Camino Nuevo	Rio Hondo
Canelar	San Jose Cawa-cawa
Lumayang	San Jose Gusu
Lumbangan	Santa Barbara
Lunzuran	Santa Catalina
Mariki	Santa Maria
Pasonanca	Santo Niño
Barangay Zone I (Pob.)	Tumaga

Third Legislative District

Bolong	Manicahan
Buenavista	Mercedes
Bunguiao	Muti
Busay (Sacol Island)	Pangapuyan
Cabaluay	Panubigan
Cacao	Pasilmanta (Sacol Island)
Calabasa	Pasobolong
Culianan	Quiniput
Curuan	Salaan
Dita	Sangali
Dulian (Upper Bunguiao)	Sibulao (Caruan)
Guisao	Tagasilay
Lamisahan	Taguiti
Landang Gua	Talabaan
Landang Laum	Taluksangay
Lanzones	Tictapul
Lapakan	Tigbalabag
Latuan (Curuan)	Tigtabon
Licombo	Tolosa
Limaong	Tumalutab
Lubigan	Tumitus
Manalipa	Victoria
Mangusu	Vitali

Fourth Legislative District

Arena Blanco
Boalan
Divisoria
Guiwan
Mampang
Putik
Talon-talon
Tetuan
Tugbungan
Kasanyangan
Zambowood

SEC. 2. *The Sangguniang Panlungsod.* – The Sangguniang Panlungsod, the legislative body of the City, shall be composed of the city vice-mayor as presiding officer, the Sangguniang Panlungsod members from each district, composing six (6) members per district, who shall be elected in the district where they reside, the president of the city chapter of the Liga ng mga Barangay, the president of the Panlungsod na Pederasyon ng mga Sangguniang Kabataan and other sectoral representatives as provided by pertinent laws.

SEC. 3. *Incumbent Representatives and Sangguniang Panlungsod Members.* – The incumbent Representatives and Sangguniang Panlungsod Members of Zamboanga City shall continue to represent their respective districts until the new Representatives and Sangguniang Panlungsod members shall have been elected and qualified.

SEC. 4. *Rules and Regulations.* – The Commission on Elections shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 5. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act or any part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions of this Act shall remain valid and subsisting.

SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, rules and regulations inconsistent herewith are modified accordingly.

SEC. 7. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation readily available in and around the scope specified herein.

Approved,

**Total Population by Province, City, Municipality, and Barangay:
as of May 1, 2020**

Province, City, Municipality, and Barangay	Total Population
CITY OF ZAMBOANGA	977,234
Arena Blanco	13,671
Ayala	26,658
Baliwasan	17,932
Baluno	3,865
Boalan	11,541
Bolong	8,068
Buenavista	8,154
Bunguiao	7,952
Busay (Sacol Island)	2,290
Cabaluay	8,849
Cabatangan	17,812
Cacao	1,311
Calabasa	2,936
Calarian	33,563
Campo Islam	11,730
Canelar	10,512
Cawit	10,244
Culianan	10,851
Curuan	11,954
Dita	2,028
Divisoria	13,172
Dulian (Upper Bunguiao)	2,569
Dulian (Upper Pasonanca)	1,489
Guisao	2,583
Guiwan	13,231
La Paz	8,724
Labuan	16,095
Lamisahan	2,764
Landang Gua	3,154
Landang Laum	3,095
Lanzones	3,689
Lapakan	1,868
Latuan (Curuan)	2,615
Limaong	4,766
Limpapa	6,060
Lubigan	3,249
Lumayang	1,999
Lumbangan	4,461
Lunzuran	13,232
Maasin	9,267
Malagutay	8,265
Mampang	31,975
Manalipa	2,588

Mangusu	5,608
Manicahan	11,999
Mariki	6,310
Mercedes	22,321
Muti	3,420
Pamucutan	4,404
Pangapuyan	767
Panubigan	982
Pasilmanta (Sacol Island)	3,138
Pasonanca	27,215
Patalon	11,127
Barangay Zone I (Pob.)	4,806
Barangay Zone II (Pob.)	1,802
Barangay Zone III (Pob.)	1,146
Barangay Zone IV (Pob.)	1,174
Putik	22,271
Quiniput	4,015
Recodo	23,254
Rio Hondo	8,827
Salaan	3,623
San Jose Cawa-cawa	4,292
San Jose Gusu	16,260
San Roque	28,829
Sangali	26,758
Santa Barbara	6,711
Santa Catalina	16,644
Santa Maria	24,133
Santo Niño	3,888
Sibulao (Caruan)	4,167
Sinubung	3,601
Sinunoc	22,918
Tagasilay	3,998
Taguiti	1,328
Talabaan	5,907
Talisayan	11,428
Talon-talon	37,350
Taluksangay	9,437
Tetuan	29,621
Tictapul	3,527
Tigbalabag	2,109
Tigtabon	5,365
Tolosa	3,859
Tugbungan	26,538
Tulungatung	11,741
Tumaga	33,399
Tumalutab	3,436
Tumitus	2,731
Vitali	10,716
Capisan	1,488
Camino Nuevo	7,421

Licombo	5,888
Kasanyangan	28,819
Pasobolong	5,624
Victoria	3,393
Zambowood	12,870

Source:
Philippine Statistics Authority, *2020 Census of Population and Housing*