



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
House of Representatives
CONSTITUTION HILLS, QUEZON CITY

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 5567



**AN ACT CREATING THE GENERAL SANTOS CITY DISTRICT
ENGINEERING OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
WORKS AND HIGHWAYS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR**

Introduced by Representative SHIRLYN L. BAÑAS-NOGRALES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Pursuant to Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) Department Order No. 87, dated April 2, 1990, a Sub-District Engineering Office was established for General Santos City under the administrative jurisdiction of the DPWH South Cotabato First District Engineering Office. Since then, the said office has exercised authority and jurisdiction over all national infrastructure projects and facilities within General Santos City.

However, with the enactment of Republic Act No. 11243, as amended by Republic Act No. 11804, General Santos City has been reapportioned into its own lone congressional district, separate and distinct from the First Legislative District of South Cotabato, which now covers only the municipalities of Polomolok, Tupi, and Tampakan. In light of the City's significant population growth, its role as a regional economic hub, its distinct infrastructure needs, and the recent legislative reapportionment, it is imperative to establish a dedicated DPWH District Engineering Office exclusively for General Santos City.

At present, the City shares oversight of infrastructure development with the South Cotabato First District Engineering Office. This arrangement has constrained the efficient planning, implementation, and maintenance of critical infrastructure projects urgently needed by our rapidly developing locality.

The establishment of a separate District Engineering Office for General Santos City shall ensure focused infrastructure planning, efficient resource allocation, and expedited delivery of public works projects, thereby sustaining the City's growth for the benefit of its citizens and the wider SOCCSKSARGEN Region.

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


SHIRLYN L. BAÑAS-NOGRALES



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

Section 1. A District Engineering Office of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) is hereby created in the Lone District of General Santos City to be known as the General Santos City District Engineering Office.

Section 2. The Secretary of the DPWH shall include in the Department's program the operationalization of a separate District Engineering Office in the Lone District of General Santos City. Its initial funding shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the existing Sub-District Engineering Office, and thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for its continued operations shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Section 3. The Secretary of the DPWH shall formulate and promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act within ninety (90) days from its effectivity.

Section 4. All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

Section 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,