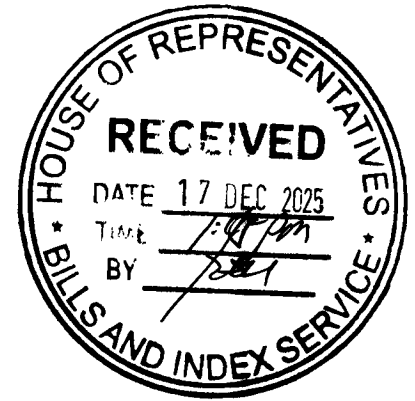


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **6929**



Introduced by Representative Julius Cesar "Jay" V. Vergara

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This proposed bill seeks to establish and operate a Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) Passport Service Satellite Office in the City of Cabanatuan, Province of Nueva Ecija.

Cabanatuan City, the largest city and the economic center of Nueva Ecija, serves as a hub for commerce, education, and government services. It caters not only to its own residents but also to the people of neighboring towns and cities. Despite this, one critical service remains absent in Cabanatuan, a DFA Passport Service Satellite Office.

At present, the nearest DFA consular office is in San Fernando City, Pampanga, about two hours away, forcing many residents to spend much time and resources just to secure basic services like passport applications and renewals.

The establishment of a DFA Satellite Office in Cabanatuan will make passport and other consular services more accessible not only to the residents of Nueva Ecija but also to nearby provinces such as Aurora, Quirino, and Nueva Vizcaya, which likewise lack consular offices.

This proposed measure is about bringing government services closer to the people, addressing a long-standing need, and ensuring that the growth and development of our province is matched by adequate government support. With international travel becoming increasingly essential for Filipinos, is only just and proper that the public be spared the burden of traveling long distances to avail themselves of these vital services.

Given the foregoing, this Bill is respectfully submitted for immediate consideration and approval.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Jay V. Vergara", written in a stylized, cursive-like font.

JULIUS CESAR "JAY" V. VERGARA
Third District of Nueva Ecija

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TWENTIETH CONGRESS

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House Bill No. **6929**

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1 **AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PASSPORT SERVICE SATELLITE OFFICE OF THE**
2 **DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (DFA) IN THE CITY OF**
3 **CABANATUAN, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA, AND APPROPRIATING**
4 **FUNDS THEREFOR**

5
6 *Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in*
7 *Congress assembled:*
8

9 **Section 1. *Establishment of a DFA Passport Service Satellite Office.*** — There
10 shall be established, under the supervision of the Department of Foreign Affairs
11 (DFA), a Passport Service Satellite Office in the City of Cabanatuan, Province of Nueva
12 Ecija, to provide passport and related consular services to the residents of the area and
13 adjacent local government units (LGUs).
14

15 **Sec. 2. *Staffing.*** — The Secretary of Foreign Affairs shall assign the necessary
16 personnel and provide the appropriate equipment, facilities, and materials for the
17 effective operation of the Passport Service Satellite Office.
18

19 **Sec. 3. *Appropriations.*** — The amount necessary for the establishment and
20 operation of the DFA Passport Service Satellite Office shall be included in the annual
21 General Appropriations Act following the enactment of this Act.
22

23 **Sec. 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** — Within sixty (60) days from the
24 effectivity of this Act, the DFA, shall formulate the rules and regulations to fully
25 implement the provisions of this Act.
26

27 **Sec. 5. *Effectivity.*** — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
28 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.
29

30 *Approved,*