

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH (18TH) CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2592



Introduced by: Representative Jose L. Atienza, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The City of Manila has always played a major part in our country's history, from the time of the rajahs, up to the Second World War. It is a city rich in history and culture, without which the Philippines would not be what it is now.

Aside from a proud and brave people, Manila is replete with historical and cultural sites, such as Intramuros and Luneta Park in the heart of the city. Intramuros is where crucial battles took place, and Bagumbayan in Luneta where our very own National Hero Dr. Jose Rizal was martyred and buried.

However, during martial law, ownership and management of Intramuros was removed from the city government of Manila and transferred to the Intramuros Administration (I.A.). Over the past decades, this important part of Philippine history and culture deteriorated and is now full of informal settlers, restaurants and other activities totally unrelated to history and culture. The City Mayor sits merely as a member of the I.A. Board, when in fact, Intramuros is dependent on the very services that the city government renders, just like the rest of the city.

This bill seeks to amend Presidential Decree 1616, otherwise known as the "Creation of the Intramuros Administration". With this bill, the organizational setup of the I.A. will now have the Mayor of Manila as its Chairman. The Mayor is in the best position to chart the course of his city, as well as these priceless parts of Manila and the nation's history. He should be given full rein to develop and preserve this national treasure, together with the rest of the city. This is giving full meaning to the spirit of local autonomy. This is what local autonomy is all about – empowering all local governments to plan their own development and progress, as embodied in our Constitution and Local Government Code. No city would be able to fully develop and achieve progress if its treasures are lost and given away by the national government.


JOSE L. ATIENZA, JR.

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AN ACT
AMENDING SECTION 2 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE 1616,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “ CREATION OF THE INTRAMUROS
ADMINISTRATION”

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

SECTION 1. SECTION 2, of PD 1616 is further amended as follow:

“ Section 2. Organization of the Administration. – The Administration shall be directed by a Board of Administrators, consisting of the

XXX “ MAYOR OF THE CITY OF MANILA as Chairman,” XXX

SECTION 2. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, orders, decrees, rules and regulations and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect immediately upon approval.

Adopted...