

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

EIGHTEENTH (18th) CONGRESS
1st Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3028



Introduced by **Hon. WILTER "SHARKY" WEE PALMA II**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Peace, Security, and Public Safety are just some of the vital components that make up the foundation of a safe and prosperous society. The presence of these building blocks towards inclusive growth in correlation to a just and resilient society would then serve as major pillars towards establishing a State that is ready and willing to ensure the safety of the general public. With safety being the number one priority, the preservation of life, liberty and property would be much more attainable by promoting a statewide commitment to public order and safety.

At its very core, this bill aims to enhance public order and safety through the creation of a Department of Public Safety in every Province, City and Municipality. This aims to improve the capability of the Local Government Units (LGUs) to maintain not only the safety and security of its citizens but also the betterment of various efforts such as Traffic Management and Disaster Preparedness.

Moreover, this bill aims to create a centralized command and control center as well as an emergency response system that would be of help towards maintaining peace and order within their respective communities. Consequently, the Department of Public Safety under the direct supervision of the Provincial Governor, City and Municipal Mayor is mandated to strictly implement law enforcement efforts, mitigate the effects of natural disasters, conduct sidewalk clearing operations, and utilize traffic control efforts.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is highly recommended.


ATTY. WILTER "SHARKY" WEE PALMA II
1st District, Zamboanga Sibugay

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EIGHTEENTH (18th) CONGRESS
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HOUSE BILL NO. 3028

Introduced By **HON. WILTER "SHARKY" WEE PALMA II**

AN ACT

**ENHANCING PUBLIC SAFETY AT THE LOCAL LEVEL BY ESTABLISHING AND
MAINTAINING A DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY IN EVERY PROVINCE, CITY
AND MUNICIPALITY**

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

1 **SECTION. 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the "Public Safety Act."

2 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the policy of the State to promote
3 public order, ensure public safety and further spur economic development
4 through the enhancement of local government capability in addressing safety and
5 security concerns and maintaining public order including the implementation of
6 efficient and effective local traffic management and disaster preparedness and
7 relief operations. Towards this end, all local government units shall establish and
8 maintain a fully functional and responsive central command and control center
9 and emergency response and management system in order to protect and
10 preserve the right of the people to life, liberty and property.

11 **SEC. 3. Creation of a Department of Public Safety.** – Every province, city
12 and municipality is hereby mandated to create a Department of Public Safety

(DPS) which, under the direct control and supervision of the provincial governor, city or municipal mayor, as the case may be, is tasked to implement public order and safety laws and ordinances, help reduce vehicular traffic congestion and address the effects of man-made and natural disasters. The DPS shall operate a fully functional and responsive central command and control center and emergency response and management system that will connect constituents needing immediate assistance with the emergency resources of the government, such as law enforcement, medical services, fire and rescue services, using the most appropriate and available technologies and communications, with a fully operative call center and dispatch hotline, adequate and well-trained staff, sufficient and up-to-date emergency response equipment, all consistent with national standards and best practices.

Contiguous cities and municipalities may, through their local chief executives, enter into arrangements and agreements to establish collective command and control centers and emergency response and management systems pending the availability of certain cities and municipalities to establish their own independent centers and systems.

Any province, city or municipality with an existing DPS or similar agency shall retain the same but must conform with the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 4. Powers and Functions. – The DPS shall exercise the following powers and functions:

(a) Prepare, integrate, coordinate and supervise all plans, programs, projects and activities of the local government relative to the promotion and maintenance of peace and order and the protection of life, liberty and property;

(b) Secure the general public and maintain public order in conjunction with police and other national law enforcement agencies;

(c) Augment auxiliary traffic services and support other agencies tasked to enforce traffic management

(d) Recommend the issuance of temporary terminal permits to public utility vehicles and manage public utility vehicle terminals;

43 (e) Monitor and supervise private security agencies and security guards and
44 issue local security clearances;

45 (f) Recommend the issuance of traffic clearance certificates to business
46 establishments;

47 (g) Clear sidewalks, public parks and other public areas of obstruction such
48 as unauthorized structures or fixtures and unlicensed vendors;

49 (h) Organize plans for and undertake evacuation, rescue and relief
50 operations in times of disasters, calamities and civil disturbances; and

51 (i) Establish, maintain and operate a central command and control center
52 and emergency response management system that will monitor and respond to
53 various contingencies in which emergency resources of the government are
54 required by the constituents.

55 Accordingly, existing departments within the local government units whose
56 primary functions are those enumerated above are hereby integrated and
57 included within the DPS. The DPS may assume additional functions other than
58 those enumerated above and may absorb other offices or agencies within the
59 local government unit as long as the functions or offices are in relation to public
60 order, safety and security and the protection of life, liberty or property, unless an
61 existing law expressly prohibits the same.

62 **SEC. 5. *Funding.*** – The amount necessary for the initial implementation of
63 this Act shall be charged against the current appropriations of the local
64 government units. Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary for continued
65 implementation shall be included in the annual budget of the local government
66 unit.

67 **SEC. 6. *Compliance Period.*** – The local government units shall comply
68 within one (1) year from the effectivity of this Act. Within thirty (30) days from
69 compliance, the governor, city or municipal mayor shall report the same to the
70 Secretary of the Interior and Local Government.

71 **SEC. 7. *Separability Clause.*** – If, for any reason, any section or provision of
72 this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid by the Supreme Court, the other
73 sections or provisions hereof not affected by such declaration shall remain in
74 force and effect.

75 **SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.*** – All existing laws, orders, decrees, rules and
76 regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby
77 repealed or modified accordingly.

78 **SEC. 9. *Effectivity.*** – This act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its
79 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a national newspaper of general
80 circulation.

81 ***Approved,***