



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2965



Introduced by **Representative Francisco Jose F. Matugas II**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to transfer the supervision and control over all provincial jails from the provincial government to the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP).


Peace and order has always been a perennial issue plaguing the national government as well as the local government units. As one of the pillars of our law enforcement system, the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology plays a very crucial role in the rehabilitation of persons who have violated our laws. It helps in transforming criminals into becoming more productive members of our society.

Under Section 61 of Republic Act No. 6975, otherwise known as the "Department of the Interior and Local Government Act 1990," all provincial jails are under the supervision and control of the provincial government while the city and municipal jails are supervised and controlled by the BJMP. With this set up, it is difficult to establish an integrated approach to jail management because you need overall coordination between the national leadership of the BJMP and the provincial government vis-à-vis jail management.

At present, the BJMP has four (4) major areas of rehabilitation: (a) Livelihood Projects; (b) Educational and Vocational Training; (c) Recreation and Sports; and (d) Religious Spiritual Activities. These programs, which are continuously implemented to reform offenders and transform them into law-abiding citizens, will certainly benefit the inmates of provincial jails.

Since one of the BJMP's main functions is to formulate policies and guidelines in the administration of all district, city, and municipal jails nationwide, the BJMP must also be allowed to implement its policies and programs in provincial jails. This will lead to uniformity in the training of jail personnel, security measures for the control of inmates, jail facilities and even programs that will promote the general welfare of inmates and personnel.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



FRANCISCO JOSE F. MATUGAS II
Surigao del Norte, First District
(*Siargao Island*)



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2965

Introduced by **Representative Francisco Jose F. Matugas II**

AN ACT
TRANSFERRING THE SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OVER
PROVINCIAL JAILS FROM THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT TO
THE BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT AND PENOLOGY,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6975,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "DEPARTMENT OF THE
INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT OF 1990"

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 61, Chapter V of Republic Act No. 6975 is
2 hereby amended to read as follows:

3 "SEC. 61. *Powers and Functions* - The Jail Bureau shall
4 exercise supervision and control over all **PROVINCIAL**, city
5 and municipal jails. [The provincial jails shall be
6 supervised and controlled by the provincial
7 government within its jurisdiction, whose expenses
8 shall be subsidized by the National Government for not
9 more than three (3) years after the affectivity of this
10 **Act]**

1 SEC. 2. Section 62, Chapter V of Republic Act No. 6975 is hereby
2 amended to read as follows:

3 “SEC 62. *Organization.* - The Jail Bureau shall be
4 headed by a Chief who shall be assisted by a deputy chief.

5 The jail Bureau shall composed of, **PROVINCIAL**,
6 city and municipal jails, each headed by a [city or
7 **municipal**] jail warden: Provided, That, in the case of
8 large cities and municipalities, a district jail with
9 subordinate jails headed by a district jail warden may be
10 established as necessary.

11 The Chief of the Jail Bureau shall recommend to the
12 Secretary the organizational structure and staffing pattern
13 of the Bureau as well as the disciplinary machinery for
14 officers and men of the Bureau in accordance with the
15 guidelines set forth herein and as prescribed in Section 85
16 of this Act.”

17 SEC. 3. Section 63, Chapter V of Republic Act No. 6975 is hereby
18 amended to read as follows:

19 “Section 63. Establishment of **PROVINCIAL**,
20 District, City or Municipal Jail. - There shall be
21 established and maintained in every **PROVINCE**,
22 district, city and municipality a secured, clean
23 adequately equipped and sanitary jail for the custody
24 and safekeeping of **PROVINCIAL**, city and
25 municipal prisoners, any fugitive from justice, or
26 person detained awaiting investigation or trial

1 and/or transfer to the national penitentiary, and/or
2 violent mentally ill person who endangers himself or
3 the safety of others, duly certified as such by the
4 proper medical or health officer, pending the transfer
5 to a medical institution.

6 “The **PROVINCIAL**, municipal or city jail
7 service shall preferably be headed by a graduate of a
8 four (4) year course in psychology, psychiatry,
9 sociology, nursing, social work or criminology who
10 shall assist in the immediate rehabilitation of
11 individuals or detention of prisoners. Great care
12 must be exercised so that the human rights of these
13 prisoners are respected and protected, and their
14 spiritual and physical well-being are properly and
15 promptly attended to.”

16 SEC. 4. All laws, decrees, executive orders and other presidential
17 issuances which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed,
18 amended or modified accordingly.

19 SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
20 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in any newspaper of general
21 circulation.

22 *Approved,*

transferjurisdictionprovincialjails\bill.transfer.provincial.jails.ver2.docx