

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

House Bill No. 3743

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 5 of Article VI of the Constitution states that:

(1) *The House of Representatives shall be composed of not more than two hundred and fifty members, unless otherwise fixed by law, who shall be elected from legislative districts apportioned among the provinces, cities, and the Metropolitan Manila area in accordance with the number of their respective inhabitants, and on the basis of a uniform and progressive ratio, and those who, as provided by law, shall be elected through a party-list system of registered national, regional, and sectoral parties or organizations.*

(3) *Each legislative district shall comprise, as far as practicable, contiguous, compact, and adjacent territory. Each city with a population of at least two hundred fifty thousand, or each province, shall have at least one representative.*

(4) *Within three years following the return of every census, the Congress shall make a reapportionment of legislative districts based on the standards provided in this section.*

However, Congress does not make reapportionment of legislative districts within three years of the return of every census as mandated by the Constitution. Instead, new legislative districts are created through laws which are usually influenced by political motivations.

Based on the result of latest Census, there should now be a reapportionment of the legislative districts of the country.

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

  
RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ



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AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR A GENERAL REAPPORTIONMENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS  
OF THE PHILIPPINES PURSUANT TO THE 2017 CENSUS

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

**Section 1. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the declared policy of the State that Congress shall reapportion the legislative districts of the country within three years of the return of every census.

**Section 2. Reapportionment of Legislative Districts.** - Legislative districts are hereby reapportioned with a minimum population of at least four hundred thousand per district based on the 2017 Census provided that no existing district shall be deprived of its representation. Each city with a population of at least 250,000 or each province shall have at least one representative.

**Section 3. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**Section 4. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,