## Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Constitution Hills, Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 93



Introduced by: REP. EDGAR MARY S. SARMIENTO

## **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

As the population of the Province of Samar increased significantly in the past years, the need for direct government service delivery has also magnified. Among the many necessary government services that the People of Samar clearly need is an office to accommodate their travel and foreign affairs needs. As of today, the residents of the province still have to suffer through hours of travel in order to apply for or renew their passports in Tacloban, Cebu or, in the case of some dire need, Metro Manila.

To ameliorate the situation, it is proposed that a new extension office of the Department of Foreign Affairs be established in Calbayog City. The extension office shall operate as a subregional hub and allow the population of Samar and Northern Samar to access the services of the DFA without much difficulty.

For the aforementioned reasons, the undersigned submits this bill again for the consideration of this august body. This bill was first filed during the 17th Congress.

EDGAR MARY S. SARMIENTO First District of Samar

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12 13	
14 15 16	AN ACT CREATING AN EXTENSION OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN CALBAYOG CITY, SAMAR PROVINCE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR
17 18 19 20	Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:
21 22 23 24 25	<b>Section 1.</b> An extension office of the Department of Foreign Affairs shall be created in Calbayog City, Samar Province. The extension office shall serve as the sub-regional hub for the Provinces of Samar and Northern Samar, and provide services for the residents of the aforementioned provinces.
26 27 28 29 30 31 32	<b>Section 2.</b> The Secretary of Foreign Affairs shall include in the Department's programs the operationalization of the regular extension office in Calbayog City, the initial funding of which shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the satellite office located in Calbayog City, Province of Samar. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the regular and continued operation of the DFA Extension Office shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.
33 34	<b>Section 3.</b> <i>Effectivity.</i> – This Act shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation.
35 36	Approved.