



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 0199



Introduced by Representative Jose Enrique S. Garcia III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Dating back to the time when the 1987 Constitution was ratified and took effect, the Province of Bataan has been apportioned two (2) seats in the House of Representatives, with the First District composed of the Municipalities of Dinalupihan, Hermosa, Orani, Samal, Abucal and Morong, and the Second District composed of the City of Balanga and the Municipalities of Pilar, Orion, Limay, Mariveles and Bagac.

Three (3) decades thereafter, not only has its population grown but remarkable growth in economic activity has also been recorded. According to the 2015 Census, the population of the Province of Bataan is 760,650. Based on the 250,000-population benchmark which was used for the 1986 apportionment of legislative districts and as prescribed in Section 5 Article VI of the 1987 Constitution, the Province of Bataan should be entitled to a third legislative district.

This bill proposes the creation of an additional district to be composed of the Municipalities of Mariveles, Limay and Orion, which will have a combined projected population of 251,609. Conformably with the proposed reapportionment, the First District shall be composed of the Municipalities of Dinalupihan, Hermosa, Orani and Morong, with a projected population of 269,043, while the Second District shall be composed of the City of Balanga, and the Municipalities of Samal, Abucay, Pilar and Bagac, with a projected population of 239,998.

Aside from the population factor, the three (3) Legislative Districts proposed to comprise the Province of Bataan share common and distinct interests which need to be encouraged and promoted through separate representations in the legislature.

The municipalities proposed to comprise the First District namely Dinalupihan, Hermosa, Orani, and Morong shall serve as the Province's gateway to the neighboring Provinces that will induce and foster economic activity in the Central Luzon Region.

The City of Balanga and the municipalities of Samal, Abucay, Pilar, and Bagac shall be forwarded as the Government and Tourism Hub of the Province which features historical landmarks, pristine beaches and resorts, and the inaugural Provincial Government Center One Stop Shop.

There is now a heavy concentration of commercial and industrial activity in the three (3) municipalities proposed to comprise the Third District.

Mariveles hosts the Freeport Area of Bataan which, according to the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB), has posted the highest growth rate among the country's Investment Promotion Agencies which include SBMA, Clark, PEZA, CEZA and BOI. Limay is the site of the country's largest oil refinery and the once exclusive Petrochemical Industrial Zone which has since been opened to diverse businesses and industries. Orion currently experiences a spill-over of investors and locators from the adjoining town of Limay.

The Municipalities of Mariveles and Orion are also closely linked to Metro Manila with the emergence of a fast, effective, and efficient Integrated Transport (Ferry & Bus) System which provides easier access to promote further industrial development and decreases the travel time of passengers and goods from Manila to the Province of Bataan vice versa by at least two hours.

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


REP. JOSE ENRIQUE S. GARCIA III
Second District, Bataan



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**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE REAPPORTIONMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF
BATAAN INTO THREE (3) LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS**

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

1 **SECTION 1.** On the next national and local elections after the effectivity of
2 this Act, the Province of Bataan is hereby reapportioned into three (3) legislative
3 district, as follows:

4 a. **First Legislative District** – The First Legislative District shall be
5 composed of the Municipalities of Dinalupihan, Hermosa, Orani, and
6 Morong.

7 b. **Second Legislative District** – The Second Legislative District shall be
8 composed of the City of Balanga and the Municipalities of Samal, Abucay,
9 Pilar, and Bagac.

10 c. **Third Legislative District** – The Third Legislative District shall be
11 composed of the Municipalities of Orion, Limay, and Mariveles.

12 **SEC. 2.** The incumbent Representatives of the First and Second Legislative
13 Districts of the Province of Bataan shall continue to represent the Legislative Districts
14 until the new Representatives of the First, Second, and Third Legislative Districts
15 shall have been elected and qualified.

16 **SEC. 3.** The Commission on Elections shall issue the necessary rules and
17 regulations to implement this Act.

18 **SEC. 4.** All laws, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with this Act,
19 are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

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

22 **Approved,**