SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. _____ 617 _____

Introduced by **Rep. JOSEPH STEPHEN PADUANO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 5, Article VI of the 1987 Philippine Constitution mandates that "Congress shall make a reapportionment of legislative districts based on the standards fixed in this section". These constitutional standards, as far as population is concerned, are: (1) proportional representation; (2) minimum population of 250,000 per legislative district; (3) progressive ratio in the increase of legislative districts as the population base increases; and (4) uniformity in apportionment of legislative districts in *provinces, cities,* and the Metropolitan Manila area. Said provision for the creation of legislative districts can be logically interpreted that the Constitution wanted to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of public service to the community.

Based on the 2010 Census of Population and Housing (CPH) posted by the Philippine Statistics Authority in its website (www.psa.gov.ph), Bacolod City posted a total population of 511,820 persons as of May 1, 2010. Despite the increase in its population and being a highly urbanized city in the province of Negros Occidental, Bacolod City still has only one legislative district.

This bill seeks to reapportion Bacolod City into two (2) legislative districts in accordance with Sec. 5 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution. It has been filed, favorably acted by the concerned Committee, approved by the House on Third and Final Reading, and consequently transmitted to the Senate for its action during the 15th and 16th Congresses. It was also favorably acted by the concerned Senate Committee but its consequent approval by the Senate was stalled by the sine die adjournments of both Congresses.

Hence, the immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

JOSEPH STEPHEN PADUANO

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Introduced by **Rep. JOSEPH STEPHEN PADUANO**
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AN ACT
RAPPORTIONING THE LONE DISTRICT AND SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD SEATS OF THE CITY OF BACOLOD

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

SECTION 1. *Legislative Districts and Sangguniang Panlungsod Seats.* - The City of Bacolod shall have two (2) legislative districts to commence in the next national elections after the effectivity of this Act. Henceforth, Barangays 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, 41, Alangilan, Banago, Bata, Estefania, Granda, Mandalangan, Monte Vista, Villamonte and Vista Alegre shall comprise the First Legislative District, while Barangayas 32, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40,Alijis, Cabug, Felisa, Handumanan, Mansilingan, Pahanocoy, Punta Taytay, Singcang, Sum-ag, Taculing and Tangub shall comprise the Second Legislative District.

There shall be eight (8) regular sangguniang panlungsod members in each district who shall be elected in the district where they reside.

SEC. 2. *Incumbent Representative and Sangguniang Panlungsod Members.* – The incumbent Representative and Sangguniang Panlungsod members of the City of Bacolod shall continue to hold office until the new Representative and Sangguniang Panlungsod members of the City shall have been elected and qualified.

SEC. 3. *Rules and Regulations.* – The Commission on elections shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

Sec. 4. *Repealing Clause.* – Republic Act No. 8553 and all other laws, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are herby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,