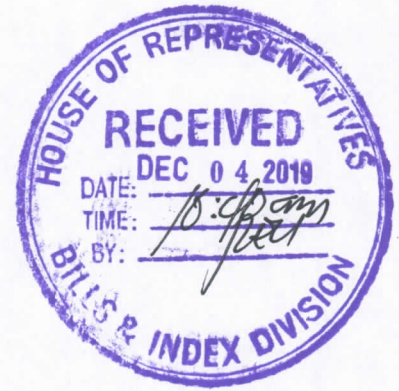


Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
*First Regular Session*

**HOUSE BILL NO. 5694**



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**Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE DIVINA GRACE C. YU**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Pagadian City has been designated as the Regional Center of Region IX by virtue of Executive Order (E.O.) No. 429 issued by former President Corazon C. Aquino. Consequently, during the time of the then President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, this E.O. was further bolstered when Memorandum Circular No. 75 series of 2004, signed by former Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita, ordering the transfer of Regional Offices of all departments and agencies of the government from Zamboanga City to Pagadian City.

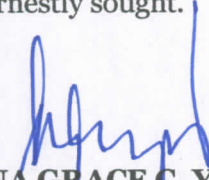
Currently, out of fifty seven (57) Regional Offices, there are already twenty eight (28) Regional Offices that are efficiently functioning in Pagadian City. Nine (9) offices have partially transferred; while seven (7) have established satellite offices.

Executive orders according to Book III, Title I, Chapter II, Section 2 of Administrative Code of 1987, refer to the "Acts of the President providing for rules of a general or permanent character in implementation or execution of constitutional or statutory powers".

Nonetheless, this bill seeks to reiterate and strengthen the permanence of the designation of Pagadian City in the Province of Zamboanga del Sur as the Regional Center of the Zamboanga Peninsula Region.

The Local Government of Pagadian City with the support of the Provincial Government of Zamboanga del Sur is ready and committed as the Zamboanga Peninsula's Regional Center. In fact, a 23-hectare land in Barangay Balintawak, Pagadian City was donated by the City Government to house and converge all regional offices. Hence, it is high time that the moratorium on the transfer of regional offices of all departments and agencies from Zamboanga City to Pagadian City be lifted.

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

  
**DIVINA GRACE C. YU**  
1<sup>st</sup> District, Zamboanga del Sur

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**AN ACT DECLARING THE CITY OF PAGADIAN IN THE PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR AS THE REGIONAL CENTER OF REGION IX - ZAMBOANGA PENINSULA REGION**

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

Section 1. **Regional Center of Region IX.** The City of Pagadian in the Province of Zamboanga del Sur has been designated as the Regional Center of the Zamboanga Peninsula Region pursuant to Executive Order No. 429, Series of 1990, as amended.

Section 2. **Development Plan.** The Regional Development Council of Region IX shall, in coordination with the Local Government Units, National Government Agencies and Instrumentalities and private sector in Region IX, formulate an over-all development program and strategic plan to redefine the City of Pagadian as the designated Regional Center.

Section 3. **Relocation of Regional Offices.** All the Regional Offices within the Region IX shall be relocated to the City of Pagadian City within one year from the effectivity of this Act. The heads of departments, agencies, bureaus, government owned-and-controlled corporations and government financial institutions shall support the regional officers in adopting and implementing their respective relocation plans including measures that will address the concerns of the employees affected by the transfer.

Section 4. **Satellite Offices.** Upon the complete relocation of the regional offices to the Province of Zamboanga del Sur, all existing Regional Offices shall automatically be converted into satellite offices for such department within the province where it is located.

Section 5. **Funding Source.** The amount necessary for the development, maintenance and administration of the regional center shall be drawn from the internally generated funds of the local government units in Region IX and the National Government. Thereafter, such sum necessary for the continued operation of the Regional Center shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Section 6. **Repealing Clause.** All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

Section 7. **Effectivity.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,