

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES**
First Regular Session

'17 MAY 31 A9:26

RECEIVED BY: 

SENATE
S.B. No. 1487

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO

**AN ACT SEPARATING THE CITY OF GENERAL SANTOS FROM THE
FIRST LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF SOUTH COTABATO
TO CONSTITUTE THE LONE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF
GENERAL SANTOS**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article VI, Section 5, paragraph 3, of the 1987 Constitution provides that, "Each legislative district shall comprise as far as practicable, continuous, 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."

The Province of South Cotabato under Region XII is divided into three (3) legislative districts.

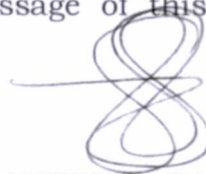
The first district of South Cotabato constitutes the city of General Santos and municipalities of Polomolok, Tupi, and Tampakan.

Based on the latest 2015 Census of Population and Housing, General Santos City, which is part of the First District of South Cotabato, has a total population of 594,000, with an average population growth rate of 1.91% from 2010 to 2015.

The same report shows that the municipality of Polomolok, also part of the First District, has increased its population from 138,273 in 2010 to 152,789 in 2015, with an average annual growth rate of 1.92%. Likewise, the municipality of Tupi has also increased its population from 61,843 in 2010 to 69,976 in 2015. The municipality of Tampakan similarly increased in terms of population from 36,254 in 2010 to 39,525 in 2015.

In accordance with the Constitutional provision on legislative districts and the principle of proper democratic representation, it is fitting to create a legislative district for the City of General Santos, the sole highly urbanized city in SOCCSKSARGEN, and grant the same with a voice in the Philippine Congress.

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

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO

Senator



Senate
Office of the Secretary

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

SECTION 1. *Lone Legislative District.* – The City of General Santos is hereby separated from the First Legislative District of the Province of South Cotabato to constitute the Lone Legislative District of the City of General Santos, which shall commence in the next national and local elections after the effectivity of this Act.

SEC. 2. *Rules and Regulations.* – The Commission on Elections shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act within thirty (30) days after its effectivity.

SEC. 3. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 4. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,