



23 JAN 25 P 6 :40

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

**SENATE**  
S.B. No. 1781

Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

**AN ACT**  
**DIVIDING BARANGAY POBLACION IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LA PAZ**  
**PROVINCE OF ABRA INTO DISTINCT AND INDEPENDENT BARANGAYS TO**  
**BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY NORTH POBLACION AND BARANGAY SOUTH**  
**POBLACION**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 9 of Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that "*The State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all.*"

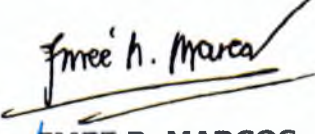
The Local Government Code of the Philippines or Republic Act No. 7160 provides that the barangay serves as the primary planning and implementing unit of government policies, plans, programs, projects, and activities in the community, and as a forum wherein the collective views of the people may be expressed, crystallized and considered, and where disputes may be amicably settled. To serve the aforementioned purposes in establishing a barangay, the population of the barangays must be maintained in such a manner that the constituents will be represented accordingly.

Barangay Poblacion is the most populous barangay among 303 barangays in the Province of Abra. The division is borne out of the desire to improve the delivery of basic government services to the people.

The measure seeks to the division of Barangay Poblacion in the Municipality of La Paz, Province of Abra into two (2) distinct and independent barangays to be known as Barangay North Poblacion and Barangay South Poblacion. This is to promote the

welfare of both barangays by ensuring that they enjoy genuine and meaningful local autonomy and attain full development, and meet the needs of their local populace as well as to alleviate the economic and social plight of the people currently residing in the area.

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

  
**IMEE R. MARCOS**



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

1           **SECTION 1.** *Division of Barangay Poblacion.* – Barangay Poblacion in the  
2 Municipality of La Paz, Province of Abra is hereby divided into two (2) distinct and  
3 independent barangays to be known as (1) Barangay North Poblacion and (2) Barangay  
4 South Poblacion.

5  
6           **SEC. 2.** *Territorial Boundaries.* – The boundaries of the two (2) barangays shall  
7 be determined by the Municipal Planning and Development Office and the Municipal  
8 Assessor's Office.

9  
10           **SEC. 3.** *Conduct and Supervision of Plebiscite.* – The new barangays shall exist  
11 upon the approval by a majority of the votes cast by the qualified voters in a plebiscite  
12 to be conducted and supervised by the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) in the  
13 areas affected, within one hundred twenty (120) days from the effectivity of this Act.  
14 The expense for the plebiscite shall be borne by the Municipality of La Paz, Abra.

15  
16           **SEC. 4.** *Special Election of Barangay.* – The first set of officials of the said  
17 barangays created shall be elected within (90) days from approval by majority of the  
18 votes cast in a plebiscite held for that purpose.

19  
20           The COMELEC shall conduct and supervise the special elections to be held in  
21 Barangay North Poblacion and Barangay South Poblacion in the Municipality of La Paz,  
22 Abra within sixty (60) days after the ratification of this Act in a plebiscite.

1           The expenses for such special elections shall be borne by the Municipality of La  
2 Paz, Abra.  
3  
4

5           **SEC. 5. *Incumbent Barangay Officials.*** – The incumbent officials of Barangay  
6 Poblacion shall continue to hold office and administer Barangay North Poblacion and  
7 Barangay South Poblacion until such time that the officials of the newly created  
8 barangays have been duly elected and qualified.  
9

10          **SEC. 6. *Public Infrastructures and Facilities.*** – All existing public infrastructure  
11 and facilities for public use existing therein at the time of the approval of this Act are  
12 hereby transferred without cost of compensation to and shall be administered by the  
13 barangay.  
14

15          **SEC. 7. *Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA).*** – Barangay North Poblacion and  
16 Barangay South Poblacion in the Municipality of La Paz shall therefor be entitled to  
17 Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) shares pursuant to Section 285 of Republic Act No.  
18 7160, as amended, otherwise known as the “Local Government Code of 1991”.  
19

20          **SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act is held unconstitutional  
21 or invalid, the remaining provisions which are not affected thereby shall continue to be  
22 in full force and effect.  
23

24          **SEC. 9. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
25 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.  
26

*Approved,*