

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF THE PHILIPPINES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 514

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	
RECEIVED	
DATE:	<u>30 JUN 2018</u>
TIME:	<u>4:15 PM</u>
BY:	<u>[Signature]</u>
REGISTRATION UNIT BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE	

Introduced by HON. ROBERT ACE S. BARBERS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to create and establish the 3rd legislative district of the Province of Surigao del Norte.

Article VI, Section 5, par. 3, of the 1987 Constitution provides: *"Each legislative district shall comprise, as far as practicable, contiguous, 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."*

In paragraph 4, the same provision states: *"Within three years following the return of every census, the Congress shall make a reapportionment of legislative districts based on the standards provided in this section."*

These provisions ensure that as the population of a province increases, the people are duly represented in Congress.

Presently, Surigao del Norte has two (2) legislative districts. The 1st is composed of the nine (9) municipalities of the island of Siargao. These are the remnants of the old 1st district which originally included the now Province of Dinagat. Presently, this district has a population of about 120,000. The 2nd district is composed of 11 municipalities in the mainland and the capital city of Surigao. Its present population is about 400,000, with the city carrying almost half of it at about 160,000.

The proposed 3rd district shall be composed of nine (9) municipalities currently included in the 2nd district. These are: Alegria, Bacuag, Claver, Gigaquit, Mainit, Placer, Tubod, Sison, and Tagana-an. Together they have a total population of about 200,000 based on the 2015 census. The present 2nd district will retain the provincial capital of Surigao City and the adjacent municipalities of San Francisco and Malimono, also with a total population of 200,000, more or less.

In satisfaction of the constitutional requirement, the proposed 3rd district comprise adjacent, compact, and contiguous territory. There being no population requirement for its creation, this bill nonetheless gives life to the constitutional mandate of ensuring due representation, considering that a substantial number of people, in this case, about 200,000, more or less, will be benefitted by the expected better and more efficient delivery of public services.

HON. ROBERT ACE S. BARBERS
2nd District, Surigao del Norte

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
FIRST REGULAR SESSION)

H.B. No. 514

Introduced by **HON. ROBERT ACE S. BARBERS**

AN ACT CREATING THE THIRD LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE

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

Section 1. *Third Legislative District of Surigao del Norte* – There is hereby created an additional legislative district in the Province of Surigao del Norte to be known as the Third Legislative District of Surigao del Norte. It shall be composed of the following municipalities currently included in the 2nd District, namely:

ALEGRIA	GIGAQUIT	TUBOD
BACUAG	MAINIT	SISON
CLAVER	PLACER	TAGANA-AN

The 2nd Legislative District shall retain the Provincial Capital of Surigao City, and the adjacent municipalities of San Francisco and Malimono.

Section 2. *Rules and Regulations.* – The Commission of Elections shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

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

Section 4. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect Fifteen (15) days after its publication in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,