



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

Seventeenth Congress  
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 640

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Introduced by **HON. RENATO "Kuya Jojo" J. UNICO, JR.**

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish a separate engineering district for the First District of Camarines Norte comprising the municipalities of Capalonga, Jose Panganiban, Labo, Paracale, and Santa Elena. The proposed engineering district shall be known as Camarines Norte First District Engineering Office, and shall be located in the municipality of Labo.

The First District of Camarines Norte is comprised of the municipalities of Capalonga, Jose Panganiban, Labo, Paracale and Santa Elena encompassing a combined land area of about 1 500 square kilometers. As part of Region V or the Bicol Region, a typhoon- studded area, Camarines Norte experiences hardly any dry season at all and with a very pronounced maximum rain leading to major erosions and unimproved infrastructure projects of the national government. The large area of responsibility of the lone engineering district in Camarines Norte hinders it from servicing the engineering requirements of the whole province. A separate engineering district office for the First District shall lead to a more focused program for the provision of necessary public infrastructures and engineering projects, which would hopefully bring about vibrant socio-economic, cultural and political development for the constituents of the First District of Camarines Norte.

In view of the foregoing, therefore a need to constitute another engineering district, separate and independent from the existing engineering office of the province of Camarines Norte. Hence, approval of this bill is most urgently sought.

**HON. RENATO J. UNICO, JR.**  
Representative  
1<sup>st</sup> District, Camarines Norte



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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING THE CAMARINES NORTE FIRST DISTRICT ENGINEERING**  
**OFFICE IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES NORTE AND APPROPRIATING**  
**FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**SECTION 1.** There shall be established, under the supervision of the Department of Public Works and Highways, a First District Engineering Office to be located in the Municipality of Labo, Province of Camarines Norte, to be known as the Camarines Norte First District Engineering Office.

**SECTION 2.** The district engineering office shall serve the Municipalities of Capalonga, Jose Panganiban, Labo, Paracale, and Santa Elena, all located in the First Congressional District of the Province of Camarines Norte.

**SECTION 3.** The Secretary of Public Works and Highways shall include in the Department's program the operationalization of the Camarines Norte First District Engineering Office, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

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

**Approved,**