EXPLANATORY NOTE

From the effectivity of the 1987 Constitution and the Ordinance Apportioning Legislative Districts in the Philippines, most of the municipalities under the jurisdiction of Palawan del Sur formed one legislative district – the Second Legislative District of Palawan. Until 2013, this legislative district covered the Municipalities of Balabac, Bataraza, Brooke's Point, Narra, Sofronio Española, Quezon, Marcos (now Jose P. Rizal), Aborlan and the City of Puerto Princesa.

When Republic Act (R.A.) No. 10171 or “An Act Reapportioning the Province of Palawan Into Three (3) Legislative Districts” was signed on July 19, 2012, a Third Congressional District was created, composed of the Municipality of Aborlan and the City of Puerto Princesa.

On April 5, 2019, R.A. No. 11259 or the “Charter of the Provinces of Palawan del Norte, Palawan Oriental, and Palawan del Sur” was signed into law. The legislative act divided the Province of Palawan into three separate and distinct provinces, apportioned with due consideration not only to income generation, total population and land area, but also to the cultural identity, shared aspirations, and tribulations of the people in these places.

Pursuant to R.A. No. 11259, Palawan del Sur is now composed of all the municipalities of the then 2nd District of Palawan, with the addition of the Municipalities of Kalayaan and Aborlan.

This bill now seeks to have these nine municipalities represented under two (2) legislative districts in order to better cater to their specific needs. The first aggregation comprises the Municipalities of Aborlan, Narra, Sofronio
Española, Quezon, and Kalayaan; while the second cluster consists of the municipalities of Balabac, Bataraza, Brooke’s Point, and Rizal.

Pursuant to Section 5(3) Article VII of the 1987 Constitution, “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 view of the foregoing, the immediate approval of this bill is earnestly requested.

Cyrille “Beng” F. Abueg-Zaldivar
Representative, 2nd District of Palawan
AN ACT
APPORTIONING THE PROVINCE OF PALAWAN DEL SUR INTO TWO
(2) LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
R.A. NO. 11259

Section 1. The Province of Palawan Del Sur is hereby apportioned into
two (2) legislative districts, each district to be composed of the following:

(a) First Legislative District. - The First Legislative District of the
Province of Palawan Del Sur shall be composed of the following
municipalities:

(1) Aborlan;
(2) Narra;
(3) Kalayaan;
(4) Quezon; and
(5) Sofronio Español.

(b) Second Legislative District. - The Second Legislative District of the
Province of Palawan Del Sur shall be composed of the following
municipalities:

(1) Balabac;
(2) Bataraza;

(3) Brooke’s Point; and

(4) Jose P. Rizal

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

Section 3. Repealing Clause. – Section 3 paragraph (c) of Republic Act No. 11259 or the Charter of the Provinces of Palawan del Norte, Palawan Oriental, and Palawan del Sur is hereby repealed. 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 at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,