

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



**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session

**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1089**

Submitted by the Committees on Justice and Appropriations on July 22, 2021

Re: House Bill No. 9841

Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 5883

Sponsors: Representatives Vicente "Ching" S. E. Veloso III, Eric Go Yap, and Cyrille "Beng" F. Abueg-Zaldivar

Mr. Speaker:

The Committees on Justice and Appropriations, to which was referred House Bill No. 5883, introduced by Representative Cyrille "Beng" F. Abueg-Zaldivar, entitled:

**"AN ACT**

CREATING A SHARI'A JUDICIAL DISTRICT COMPRISING THE PROVINCE OF PALAWAN AND THE CITY OF PUERTO PRINCESA, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLES 138, 147, AND 150 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1083, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "CODE OF MUSLIM PERSONAL LAWS OF THE PHILIPPINES," AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

have considered the same and recommend that the attached House Bill No. 9841 entitled:

**"AN ACT**

CREATING A SHARI'A JUDICIAL DISTRICT COMPRISING THE PROVINCE OF PALAWAN AND THE CITY OF PUERTO PRINCESA, AND CREATING THEREIN ONE (1) SHARI'A DISTRICT COURT TO BE STATIONED IN THE CITY OF PUERTO PRINCESA, AND TWO (2) SHARI'A CIRCUIT COURTS TO BE STATIONED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF TAYTAY AND BROOKE'S POINT, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLES 138, 147, AND 150 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1083, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "CODE OF MUSLIM PERSONAL LAWS OF THE PHILIPPINES," AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

be approved in substitution of House Bill No. 5883, with Representatives Cyrille "Beng" F. Abueg-Zaldivar, Vicente "Ching" S.E. Veloso III, Eric Go Yap, Sandro L. Gonzalez, Machell M. Lusotan, Strike B. Revilla, Kristine Singson-Meehan, Tyrone D. Agabas, Juan Miguel Macapagal Arroyo, Stella Luz A. Quimbo, Carlos Isagani T. Zarate, Elenita Milagros "Eileen" Ermita-Buhain, Lorna P. Bautista-Bandigan, Ruffy B. Biazon, Peter John D. Calderon, Junie E. Cua, Luisa Lloren Cuaresma, Manuel Jose "Mannix" M. Dalipe, Paul Ruiz Daza, Rudys Caesar G. Fariñas I, Jose Enrique "Joet" S. Garcia III, Greg G. Gasataya, Ed Christopher S. Go, Ruwel Peter Gonzaga, Sandro L. Gonzalez, Teodorico Haresco, Jr., Jocelyn Sy Limkaichong, Allan Benedict S. Reyes, Manuel T. Sagarbarria, Joey Sarte Salceda, David "Jay-Jay" C. Suarez, Jose "Pingping" I. Tejada,

Micaela S. Violago, Manuel F. Zubiri, Cyrille "Beng" F. Abueg-Zaldivar, Julienne "Jam" Baronda, Jose Francisco "Kiko" B. Benitez, Ph.D., Gabriel H. Bordado, Jr., Narciso R. Bravo, Jr., Argel Joseph T. Cabatbat, Carl Nicolas C. Cari, Sergio C. Dagooc, Maximo Y. Dalog, Jr., Cheryl P. Deloso-Montalla, Abdullah D. Dimaporo, Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo, Eduardo "Eddie" R. Gullas, Ann K. Hofer, Glona G. Labadlabad, Edward Vera Perez Maceda, Dale "Along" R. Malapitan, Mario Vittorio "Marvey" A. Mariño, Maricel G. Natividad-Nagaño, Ma. Lucille L. Nava, M.D., Emmarie "Lolypop" Ouano-Dizon, Joy Myra S. Tambunting, Angelina "Helen" D.L. Tan, M.D., Kristine Alexie B. Tutor, Manuel DG. Cabochan III, John Marvin "Yul Servo" C. Nieto, Rodolfo M. Ordanes, Romulo "Kid" V. Peña, Jr., Florida "Rida" P. Robes, Roman T. Romulo, Allan U. Ty and Rosanna "Ria" V. Vergara as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted,



**ERIC GO YAP**  
Chairperson  
Committee on Appropriations



**VICENTE "CHING" S. E. VELOSO III**  
Chairperson  
Committee on Justice

**THE HONORABLE SPEAKER**  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
QUEZON CITY

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
Second Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 9841**  
(in substitution of House Bill No. 5883)

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Introduced by Representatives Cyrille "Beng" F. Abueg-Zaldivar, Vicente "Ching" S.E. Veloso III, Eric Go Yap, Strike B. Revilla, Kristine Singson-Meehan, Tyrone D. Agabas, Juan Miguel Macapagal Arroyo, Stella Luz A. Quimbo, Carlos Isagani T. Zarate, Elenita Milagros "Eileen" Ermita-Buhain, Lorna P. Bautista-Bandigan, Ruffy B. Biazon, Peter John D. Calderon, Junie E. Cua, Luisa Lloren Cuaresma, Manuel Jose "Mannix" M. Dalipe, Paul Ruiz Daza, Rudys Caesar G. Fariñas I, Jose Enrique "Joet" S. Garcia III, Greg G. Gasataya, Ed Christopher S. Go, Ruwel Peter Gonzaga, Sandro L. Gonzalez, Teodorico Haresco, Jr., Jocelyn Sy Limkaichong, Allan Benedict S. Reyes, Manuel T. Sagarbarria, Joey Sarte Salceda, David "Jay-Jay" C. Suarez, Jose "Pingping" I. Tejada, Micaela S. Violago, Manuel F. Zubiri, Cyrille "Beng" F. Abueg-Zaldivar, Julianne "Jam" Baronda, Jose Francisco "Kiko" B. Benitez, Ph.D., Gabriel H. Bordado, Jr., Narciso R. Bravo, Jr., Argel Joseph T. Cabatbat, Carl Nicolas C. Cari, Sergio C. Dagooc, Maximo Y. Dalog, Jr., Cheryl P. Deloso-Montalla, Abdullah D. Dimaporo, Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo, Eduardo "Eddie" R. Gullas, Ann K. Hofer, Glona G. Labadlabad, Edward Vera Perez Maceda, Dale "Along" R. Malapitan, Mario Vittorio "Marvey" A. Mariño, Maricel G. Natividad-Nagaño, Ma. Lucille L. Nava, M.D., Emmarie "Lolypop" Ouano-Dizon, Joy Myra S. Tambunting, Angelina "Helen" D.L. Tan, M.D., Kristine Alexie B. Tutor, Manuel DG. Cabochan III, John Marvin "Yul Servo" C. Nieto, Rodolfo M. Ordanes, Romulo "Kid" V. Peña, Jr., Florida "Rida" P. Robes, Roman T. Romulo, Allan U. Ty and Rosanna "Ria" V. Vergara

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**AN ACT**

**CREATING A SHARI'A JUDICIAL DISTRICT COMPRISING THE PROVINCE OF PALAWAN AND THE CITY OF PUERTO PRINCESA, AND CREATING THEREIN ONE (1) SHARI'A DISTRICT COURT TO BE STATIONED IN THE CITY OF PUERTO PRINCESA, AND TWO (2) SHARI'A CIRCUIT COURTS TO BE STATIONED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF TAYTAY AND BROOKE'S POINT, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLES 138, 147, AND 150 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1083, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "CODE OF MUSLIM PERSONAL LAWS OF THE PHILIPPINES," AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1       **SECTION 1.** Article 138 of Presidential Decree No. 1083, otherwise known as the  
2 "Code of Muslim Personal Laws of the Philippines", is hereby amended to read as  
3 follows:

4  
5               "ARTICLE 138. Shari'a judicial districts. – [Five] **SIX** special judicial  
6 districts, each to have one Shari'a District Court presided over by one  
7 judge, are constituted as follows:  
8

1 (a) The First Shari'a District shall comprise the Province of Sulu;

2  
3 (b) The Second Shari'a District, the Province of Tawi-Tawi;

4  
5 (c) The Third Shari'a District, the Province of Basilan, Zamboanga del  
6 Norte and Zamboanga del Sur, and the Cities of Dipolog, Pagadian and  
7 Zamboanga;

8  
9 (d) The Fourth Shari'a District, the provinces of Lanao del Norte and  
10 Lanao del Sur, and the Cities of Iligan and Marawi; [and]

11  
12 (e) The Fifth Shari'a District, the Provinces of Maguindanao, North  
13 Cotabato and Sultan Kudarat, and the City of Cotabato[.] ; **AND**

14  
15 **(F) THE SIXTH SHARI'A DISTRICT, THE PROVINCE OF**  
16 **PALAWAN AND THE CITY OF PUERTO PRINCESA"**

17  
18 **SEC. 2.** Article 147 of the same law is hereby amended to read as follows:

19  
20 "ARTICLE 147. Permanent stations; offices. - (1) The Shari'a District  
21 Courts shall have their respective permanent stations in the following  
22 places:

23  
24 (a) First Shari'a District, Jolo, Sulu;

25  
26 (b) Second Shari'a District, Bongao, Tawi-Tawi;

27  
28 (c) Third Shari'a District, Zamboanga City;

29  
30 (d) Fourth Shari'a District, Marawi City;

31  
32 (e) Fifth Shari'a District, Cotabato City; **AND**

33  
34 **(F) SIXTH SHARI'A DISTRICT, PUERTO PRINCESA CITY.**

35  
36 (2) The Shari'a District Courts may hold sessions anywhere within their  
37 respective districts.

38  
39 (3) The provinces, cities or municipalities concerned shall provide such  
40 courts with adequate court office, supplies and equipment in accordance  
41 with the provisions of the Judiciary Law."

42  
43 **SEC. 3.** Article 150 of the same law is hereby amended to read as follows:

44  
45 "ARTICLE 150. Where established. - (1) Shari'a Circuit Courts shall be  
46 established as follows:

47  
48 (a) Six such courts in the Province of Sulu;

49  
50 (b) Eight in the Province of Tawi-Tawi;

51  
52 (c) Ten in and for the Provinces of Basilan, Zamboanga del Norte  
53 and Zamboanga del Sur, and the Cities of Dipolog, Pagadian, and

1 Zamboanga;

2  
3 (d) Twelve in and for the Provinces of Lanao del Norte and Lanao  
4 del Sur and the Cities of Iligan and Marawi;

5  
6 (e) Fifteen in and for the Province of Maguindanao, North  
7 Cotabato and Sultan Kudarat and the City of Cotabato[.] ; **AND**

8  
9 **(F) TWO FOR THE PROVINCE OF PALAWAN, TO BE**  
10 **STATIONED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF TAYTAY AND**  
11 **BROOKE'S POINT."**

12  
13 (2) The territorial jurisdiction of each of the Shari'a Circuit Courts shall  
14 be fixed by the Supreme Court on the basis of geographical contiguity of  
15 the municipalities and cities concerned and their Muslim population.

16  
17 **SEC. 4.** The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall immediately include in the  
18 Court's program the operationalization of the newly created Shari'a District Court in the  
19 city of Puerto Princesa and the Shari'a Circuit Courts in the municipalities of Taytay and  
20 Brooke's Point, province of Palawan. The funds necessary for the operation of the  
21 courts herein created shall be appropriated and released only upon the actual  
22 organization of the courts and the appointment of its personnel.

23  
24 **SEC. 3.** Articles 138, 147 and 150 of Presidential Decree No. 1083, otherwise  
25 known as the "Code of Muslim Personal Laws of the Philippines", as amended, and all  
26 other laws, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby  
27 amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

28  
29 **SEC. 4.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*  
30 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

31  
32 Approved,

# House of Representatives

## Committee Affairs Department

### FACT SHEET

#### House Bill No. 9841

(in substitution of House Bill No. 5883)  
(Approved by the Committee on February 10, 2021)

#### "AN ACT

**CREATING A SHARI'A JUDICIAL DISTRICT COMPRISING THE PROVINCE OF PALAWAN AND THE CITY OF PUERTO PRINCESA, AND CREATING THEREIN ONE (1) SHARI'A DISTRICT COURT TO BE STATIONED IN THE CITY OF PUERTO PRINCESA, AND TWO (2) SHARI'A CIRCUIT COURTS TO BE STATIONED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF TAYTAY AND BROOKE'S POINT, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLES 138, 147, AND 150 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1083, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "CODE OF MUSLIM PERSONAL LAWS OF THE PHILIPPINES," AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"**

*Introduced by: Representative Cyrille "Beng" F. Abueg-Zaldivar, Vicente "Ching" S.E. Veloso, Eric Go Yap, Strike B. Revilla, Kristine Singson-Meehan, Tyrone D. Agabas, Juan Miguel Macapagal Arroyo, Stella Luz A. Quimbo, Carlos Isagani T. Zarate, Elenita Milagros "Eileen" Ermita-Buhain, Lorna P. Bautista-Bandigan, Ruffy B. Biazon, Peter John D. Calderon, Junie E. Cua, Luisa Lloren Cuaresma, Manuel Jose "Mannix" M. Dalipe, Paul Ruiz Daza, Rudys Caesar G. Fariñas I, Jose Enrique "Joet" S. Garcia III, Greg G. Gasataya, Ed Christopher S. Go, Ruwel Peter Gonzaga, Sandro L. Gonzalez, Teodorico Haresco, Jr., Jocelyn Sy Limkaichong, Allan Benedict S. Reyes, Manuel T. Sagarbarria, Joey Sarte Salceda, David "Jay-Jay" C. Suarez, Jose "Pingping" I. Tejada, Micaela S. Violago, Manuel F. Zubiri, Cyrille "Beng" F. Abueg-Zaldivar, Julienne "Jam" Baronda, Jose Francisco "Kiko" B. Benitez, Ph.D., Gabriel H. Bordado, Jr., Narciso R. Bravo, Jr., Argel Joseph T. Cabatbat, Carl Nicolas C. Cari, Sergio C. Dagooc, Maximo Y. Dalog, Jr., Cheryl P. Deloso-Montalla, Abdullah D. Dimaporo, Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo, Eduardo "Eddie" R. Gullas, Ann K. Hofer, Glona G. Labadlabad, Edward Vera Perez Maceda, Dale "Along" R. Malapitan, Mario Vittorio "Marvey" A. Mariño, Maricel G. Natividad-Nagaño, Ma. Lucille L. Nava, M.D., Emmarie "Lolypop" Ouano-Dizon, Joy Myra S. Tambunting, Angelina "Helen" D.L. Tan, M.D., Kristine Alexie B. Tutor, Manuel DG. Cabochan III, John Marvin "Yul Servo" C. Nieto, Rodolfo M. Ordanes, Romulo "Kid" V. Peña, Jr., Florida "Rida" P. Robes, Roman T. Romulo, Allan U. Ty and Rosanna "Ria" V. Vergara*

*Committee Referral: **Committees on Justice and Appropriations***

*Committee Chairpersons: **Rep. VICENTE "CHING" S.E. VELOSO and Rep. ERIC GO YAP***

#### **OBJECTIVE:**

- To ensure a more effective and efficient access to Shari'a courts for Muslim Filipinos residing in the Province of Palawan.

#### **KEY PROVISION:**

- Establishes a Shari'a Judicial District comprising the Province of Palawan and the City of Puerto Princesa.
- Creates one (1) Shari'a District Court in Puerto Princesa City and two (2) Shari'a Circuit Courts to be stationed in the Municipalities of Taytay and Brooke's Point, all in the Province of Palawan.

#### **RELATED LAWS:**

- **Presidential Decree No. 1083**, otherwise known as the "Code of Muslim Personal Laws of the Philippines"