

Mr. MARCOS. Do I understand also that no construction can be undertaken by the Bureau of Public Works without any law appropriating the amount necessary?

Mr. NEPOMUCENO. Yes, sir.

El PRESIDENTE. ¿Puede pasar el proyecto a tercera lectura?

La CÁMARA. Sí.

El PRESIDENTE. Léase el título.

El CLERK DE ACTAS, leyendo:

Lej que establece el período durante el cual se puede pagar el costo de construcción o reconstrucción de los sistemas de riego ya construidos por el Gobierno o que en adelante se construyan.

El PRESIDENTE. Los que estén en favor del proyecto, tal como ha quedado enmendado, digan sí.

La CÁMARA. Sí.

El PRESIDENTE. Los que estén en contra, digan no. (Silencio.) Aprobado.

#### SUSPENSIÓN DE LA SESIÓN

Se suspende la sesión por algunos minutos.

#### REANUDACIÓN DE LA SESIÓN

Se reanuda la sesión.

El PRESIDENTE. De conformidad con la Orden Especial No. 67, está en orden ahora el estudio del Proyecto de Ley No. 1342 de la Cámara.

Mr. MARCOS. Mr. Speaker, in view of the probability that the Governor-General will veto bills of this nature, I move that the consideration of this bill be postponed until the next session.

El PRESIDENTE. ¿Hay alguna objeción a esta moción? (Silencio.) La Mesa no oye ninguna. Aprobada. Está en orden el Proyecto de Ley No. 1616 de la Cámara. Léase el proyecto.

El CLERK DE ACTAS, leyendo:

#### CREACIÓN DE UN NUEVO MUNICIPIO EN LA PROVINCIA DE ALBAY

HOUSE BILL NO. 1616

[Introduced by Representative Perfecto (F. A.)]

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to reestablish the old municipality of Caramoran. All the barrios herein named and the territory which they occupy were once an independent municipality before they were fused to the municipality of Pandan. For more than ten years the inhabitants of these barrios worked for their independence. Their struggle, however, failed to make a response from the constituted authorities. The economic, social and political conditions of these barrios and their distance from the present seat of the government of the municipality of Pandan, require that these barrios should be a municipality by themselves. The welfare of the inhabitants and the collection of the revenues from these barrios are more or less neglected. The undersigned believes, and the inhabitants of the said barrios also believe, that the creation of this new municipality would very greatly improve their conditions and will facilitate the collection of the revenues of the government. They are conscious of the coming responsibilities of their independent government. The new municipality of Rizal will have more than 6,000 inhabitants and an income of not less than ₱5,000. The probable expenses will be about ₱2,000 thereby leaving the sum of ₱3,000 which may be invested for improvements and other local necessities. They have a cemetery. The organization of this municipality will not affect the political organization of the municipality of Pandan except the pro-

portional reduction in territory and revenues. An immediate approval of this bill is, therefore, earnestly prayed for.

(Sgd.) FRANCISCO A. PERFECTO  
Representative, Second District, Albay

AN ACT INCREASING THE NUMBER OF THE MUNICIPALITIES OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBAY, BY THE SEPARATION FROM THE MUNICIPALITY OF PANDAN, CATANDUANES, THE BARRIOS OF CARAMORAN, HILACAN, TUBLI, PANIKI, BOCON, SUPANG, AND GITOMA AND PROVIDING FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF THESE BARRIOS INTO AN INDEPENDENT MUNICIPALITY OF RIZAL, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Legislature assembled and by the authority of the same:

SECTION 1. The twenty-two municipalities of the Province of Albay, as established and organized, shall in accordance with the provisions of this Act, be increased to twenty-three, by separating the barrios of Caramoran, Hilacan, Tubli, Paniki, Bocon, Supang, and Gitoma from the municipality of Pandan, Catanduanes, which are hereby organized as an independent municipality of "Rizal" with a seat of the municipal government in the barrio of Supang.

The municipality of Pandan shall consist of its present territory minus the territory comprised in the barrios of Hilacan, Caramoran, Tubli, Paniqui, Bocon, Supang, and Gitoma. The municipality of Rizal shall consist of the territory comprised in the barrios above mentioned.

SEC. 2. The elective municipal officials of the newly organized municipality of Rizal shall, as soon as this act is approved, be appointed by the Governor-General with the consent of the Senate, upon the recommendation of the Provincial Board of Albay and shall hold office until their successors are duly elected and qualified in accordance with the provisions of the Election Law. This organization of the municipality of Rizal shall not affect the political organization of the municipality of Pandan and its present municipal officials shall continue their offices, until their successors are duly elected and qualified in accordance with law.

SEC. 3. All the provisions of the Administrative Code as amended and which are applicable to the regularly organized municipalities shall be applicable to the new municipality of Rizal.

SEC. 4. The funds and obligations, as well as the properties belonging to the municipality of Pandan and to the new municipality of Rizal, shall be distributed equitably between both municipalities in the form and manner that may be recommended by the Insular Auditor approved by the Governor-General.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect on its approval.

Approved,

El PRESIDENTE. Tiene la palabra el Comité.

Mr. TORRALBA. If there is no objection I move that the bill be approved.

El PRESIDENTE. ¿Puede votarse el proyecto?

La CÁMARA. Sí.

El PRESIDENTE. Léase el título del proyecto.

El CLERK DE ACTAS, leyendo:

An Act increasing the number of the municipalities of the Province of Albay, by the separation from the municipality of Pandan, Catanduanes, the barrios of Caramoran, Hilacan, Tubli, Paniki, Bocon, Supang, and Gitoma and providing for the organization of these barrios into an independent municipality of Rizal, and for other purposes.

El PRESIDENTE. Los que estén en favor del proyecto, digan sí.

La CÁMARA. Sí.

El PRESIDENTE. Los que estén en contra, digan *no*. (*Silencio*.) Aprobado.

Está en orden el Proyecto de Ley No. 1650 de la Cámara. Léase el proyecto.

CREACIÓN DE UN NUEVO MUNICIPIO EN LA PROVINCIA DE CEBÚ

El CLERK DE ACTAS, leyendo:

HOUSE BILL NO. 1650

[Introduced by Representative Gullas]

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This bill is but the reelection and crystalization of the wishes of the inhabitants of Santa Rosa, Kaubian, Pangan-an, Caojagan and Sulpa islands which are hung in the middle of the ocean midway between Cebu and Bohol and far from the mainland of Cebu and the mainland of Mactan.

The reasons behind the bill are various. GEOGRAPHICAL. The islands of Santa Rosa, Kaubian, and their neighboring and sister islands are over ten miles distant from the mainland of Opon. The wide stretch of water that separates said islands from Opon works a terrible hardship on the inhabitants of said islands. During stormy weather their lot becomes very hard indeed. There is no steamboat or even a launch that periodically comes to said islands. The barrios in said islands are almost isolated and out of from the *población* of Opon.

ECONOMICAL. The proposed municipality of Lapulapu has a sufficient number of inhabitants and extent of territory and taxable property necessary to constitute an independent municipality. It has an approximate area of 700 hectares. Its population is approximately 5,000. It has a taxable property worth ₱111,180. At present, about ₱6,000 are collected from the inhabitants of said islands as real property and personal taxes, internal revenue collections from tuba, weights and measures, cockpits, dealers, fisheries, private markets, and other municipal licenses.

NO INSULAR DEBTS. Another good reason that entitles the said islands to form themselves into an independent municipality is that the present municipality of Opon owes nothing to the Insular Government. The only debt it owes is ₱4,500 to the Province of Cebu.

FINANCIAL STANDING OF OPON. Still another strong reason that justifies the constitution of an independent municipality of those islands is found in the fact that the municipality of Opon has an annual gross income of about ₱30,000 general fund and ₱10,000 school fund. The Municipal Council of Opon indorses the idea behind this bill, by its Resolution No. 30, series 1926, of June 13, 1926.

The following is the yearly gross income of the municipality of Opon from 1911-1925:

Year	General Fund	School Fund
1911	₱10,536.78	₱3,062.81
1912	10,326.44	2,780.88
1913	8,550.79	3,154.48
1914	9,289.56	2,654.49
1915	10,404.50	3,072.39
1916	10,409.53	2,365.18
1917	13,774.37	( <sup>1</sup> )
1918	15,521.08	( <sup>1</sup> )
1919	18,204.67	( <sup>1</sup> )
1920	20,021.45	5,631.43
1921	19,854.12	4,787.63
1922	21,272.61	8,517.47
1923	22,278.80	9,920.18
1924	25,475.24	6,517.52
1925	29,240.28	10,974.97

<sup>1</sup> Record not available.

PRESENT FACILITIES. There are two big barrios, Santa Rosa and Tiño, any one of which can be the seat or the capital of the municipality. They have the necessary men capable of taking over the administration of the affairs of the proposed municipality.

MATTER OF JUSTICE. Santa Rosa or Onáño group of islands was for time immemorial enjoying an independent existence as a municipality until 1904, when it was fused with the municipality of Opon. Cordova had likewise been

a municipality; but like Santa Rosa, was fused with the municipality of Opon. But in 1913, Cordova got back its municipal independence. Santa Rosa did not.

Cordova is right in the mainland, on the islands of Mactan, but a few kilometers from the *población* of Opon. On the other hand, a wide gulf separates Santa Rosa, and the adjacent islands from the mainland of Mactan. So Santa Rosa and her sister islands and barrios have better reasons to be reconstituted into an independent municipality. Hence, the just demands that they be given back their lost municipal independence.

(Sgd.) PAULINO GULLAS  
Representative, Second District, Cebu

AN ACT TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF MUNICIPALITIES OF THE PROVINCE OF CEBU FROM FIFTY-TWO TO FIFTY-THREE BY SEPARATING FROM THE MUNICIPALITY OF OPON THE ISLANDS OF SANTA ROSA, KAUBIAN, PANGAN-AN, CAOJAGAN, AND SULPA AND ORGANIZING THEM INTO AN INDEPENDENT MUNICIPALITY TO BE CALLED AS THE "MUNICIPALITY OF LAPULAPU," AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Legislature assembled and by the authority of the same:

SECTION 1. The number of municipality of the Province of Cebu is hereby increased from fifty-two to fifty-three by separating from the municipality of Opon, the Islands of Santa Rosa, Kaubian, Pangan-an, Caojagan, and Sulpa together with all the barrios in the said islands, which are hereby organized as an independent municipality to be known as the "Municipality of Lapulapu," with a seat of municipal government in the barrio of Santa Rosa, Island of Santa Rosa. The Municipality of Opon shall consist of its present territory, less the territory comprised by the Islands of Santa Rosa, Kaubian, Pangan-an, Caojagan, and Sulpa.

SEC. 2. All the provisions of the Administrative Code, as amended, which are applicable to the regularly organized municipalities, shall govern the new municipality of Lapulapu.

SEC. 3. The funds and obligations as well as the properties that pertain to the municipality of Opon shall be equitably distributed between both municipalities of Opon and Lapulapu in the form and manner recommended by the Insular Auditor and approved by the Governor-General.

SEC. 4. The elected municipal officials of the newly organized municipality of Lapulapu shall be appointed, as soon as this Act shall have been approved, by the Governor-General with the consent of the Philippine Senate upon the recommendation of the Provincial Board of Cebu and shall hold office until their successors are duly elected and qualified in accordance with the Election Law.

SEC. 5. The organization of the municipality of Lapulapu shall not affect the political organization of the municipality of Opon, and its present municipal officials shall continue to hold their offices until their successors shall have duly qualified.

SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect on its approval.

Approved,

El PRESIDENTE. Tiene la palabra el Comité.

Sr. GULLAS. Si no hay objeción pido que el proyecto sea aprobado.

El PRESIDENTE. ¿Puede votarse el proyecto?

La CÁMARA. Sí.

El PRESIDENTE. Léase el título del proyecto.

El CLERK DE ACTAS, leyendo:

An Act to increase the number of municipalities of the Province of Cebu from fifty-two to fifty-three by separating from the municipality of Opon the Islands of Santa Rosa, Kaubian, Pangan-an, Caojagan, and Sulpa and organizing them into an independent municipality to be called as the "Municipality of Lapulapu," and for other purposes.

El PRESIDENTE. Los que estén en favor del proyecto, digan *sí*.

La CÁMARA. Sí.