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Republic of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS
Manila

IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11243 ENTITLED, "AN ACT REAPPORTIONING THE FIRST LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF SOUTH COTABATO, THEREBY CREATING THE LONE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OF GENERAL SANTOS CITY."

**ABAS, Sheriff M.,
PARREÑO, Al A.,
GUIA, Luie Tito F.,
GUANZON, Ma. Rowena Amelia V.,
INTING, Socorro B.,
CASQUEJO, Marlon S.,
KHO, Jr., Antonio T.**

Chairman
Commissioner
Commissioner
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Commissioner

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Promulgated: April 11, 2019

RESOLUTION NO. 105245
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WHEREAS, on March 11, 2019, the President of the Republic of the Philippines approved Republic Act No. 11243 (RA 11243), entitled "An Act Reapportioning the First Legislative District of the Province of South Cotabato Thereby Creating the Lone Legislative District of General Santos City";

WHEREAS, Section 3 of R.A. No. 11243 states that the Commission on Elections (Commission) shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement the law within thirty (30) days after its effectivity.

WHEREAS, Section 5 of R.A. No. 11243 provides that the law shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in any newspaper of general circulation.

WHEREAS, R.A. No. 11243 was published in the *Official Gazette* on March 20, 2019 and therefore, shall become effective on April 04, 2019;

WHEREAS, the electoral data for the position of Member, House of Representatives for the First Legislative District of the Province of South Cotabato, which included General Santos City before the passage of R.A. No. 11243, as well as the names of the candidates for the said position, have already been configured into the automated election system and can no longer be revised or modified in time for the May 13, 2019 national and local elections without jeopardizing the preparations for the election of other positions.

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NOW, THEREFORE, the Commission, by the powers vested in it by the 1987 Philippine Constitution, R.A. 11243, and other relevant election laws, **RESOLVED**, as it is hereby **RESOLVES**, to promulgate and approve the following *“Implementing Rules and Regulations of RA No. 11243 entitled An Act Reapportioning the First Legislative District of the Province of South Cotabato Thereby Creating the Lone Legislative District of General Santos City”*.

Section 1. Title. - These Rules and Regulations shall be referred to as the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of RA No. 11243 entitled *“An Act Reapportioning the First Legislative District of the Province of South Cotabato Thereby Creating the Lone Legislative District of General Santos City”*.

Section 2. Legislative Districts and Composition. - The Province of South Cotabato shall be reapportioned into three (3) legislative districts, with each district composed of the following:

- a. First Legislative District: Polomolok, Tampakan, Tupi (3);
- b. Second Legislative District: The City of Koronadal, and the municipalities of Banga, Lake Sebu, Norala, Santo Niño, Surallah, Tandingan and T’Boli (8);
- c. Third Legislative District: The City of General Santos;

Section 3. First Regular Elections. - The electoral data for the position of Member, House of Representatives for the First Legislative District of South Cotabato, which included General Santos City, as well as the names of the candidates for the said position, have already been configured into the automated election system.

As configured, voters of the First Legislative District of the Province of South Cotabato will vote for one (1) position for Member, House of Representatives. This configuration is inconsistent with Section 1 of R.A. 11243 which reapportioned the First Legislative District of the Province of South Cotabato thereby creating the Lone Legislative District of General Santos City.

The present configuration can no longer be revised or modified in time for the May 13, 2019 national and local elections, without jeopardizing the preparations for the election of other positions, due to the following operational and logistical constraints, such as but not limited to:

- a) Filing of Certificates of Candidacy for the newly created legislative districts;
- b) Finalization of the list of candidates;
- c) Finalization of the ballot face;
- d) Printing of ballots.

In view of the above reasons, the Commission:

- a) **SUSPENDS** the election of Representatives for the First Legislative District, including General Santos City, in the Province of South Cotabato, scheduled on May 13, 2019. In case the position for Member, House of Representatives in the First Legislative District, including General Santos City, is voted upon in the May 13, 2019 elections, all votes for the said position shall be considered stray; and

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- b) **SETS** the first regular election for the new Representatives of the First and Third Legislative Districts of the Province of South Cotabato, within six (6) months from May 13, 2019.

Section 4. Incumbent Representative. - The Incumbent Representatives of the First and Second Legislative Districts of the Province of South Cotabato shall continue to represent the legislative districts until noon of June 30, 2019.

Section 5. Allocation of Members, House of Representatives. - Each of the three (3) legislative districts in the Province of South Cotabato shall have one (1) Representative in the House of Representatives.

Section 6. Election of other elective positions. - The election in the First and Third Legislative Districts in South Cotabato for the positions of Senators, Part-List Representatives, provincial, city, and municipal elective offices shall be held as scheduled on May 13, 2019. For the Second Legislative District, the election for the positions of Senators, Part-List Representatives, Legislative District Representative, provincial, city, and municipal elective offices shall be held as scheduled on May 13, 2019;

Section 7. Repealing Clause. - All rules and regulations which are inconsistent with this IRR are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 8. Publication. - The Education and Information Department (EID) of the Commission shall cause the publication of this IRR in two (2) daily newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Section 9. Effectivity. - This IRR shall take effect on the seventh (7th) day after its publications in two (2) daily newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

SO ORDERED.


SHERIFF M. ABAS
Chairman


AL A. PARREÑO
Commissioner


MA. ROWENA AMELIA V. GUANZON
Commissioner


MARLON S. CASADO
Commissioner


LUIE TITO F. GUIA
Commissioner


SOCORRO B. INTING
Commissioner

On Official Business

ANTONIO T. KHO, JR.
Commissioner