Item No. _____
For 2nd Reading
134th Regular Session
April 2, 2025
Tandag City

RESOLUTION NO. _____-25
(Series of 2025)

URGING THE PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL SUR TO COME UP WITH A COUNTERPART OF THE COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARY DISPUTE/SETTLEMENT IN THEIR SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN TO BE ABLE FOR THE TWO LEGISLATIVE BODIES TO SETTLE THE BOUNDARY DISPUTE BETWEEN THE THE PROVINCES OF SURIGAO DEL SUR AND AGUSAN DEL SUR

SPONSORS:

HON. ANTONIO C. AZARCON, HON. CONRAD C. CEJOCO, HON. JOSE DUMAGAN, JR., HON. JIMMY I. GUINSOD, HON. GINES RICKY J. SAYAWAN, SR., HON. RUEL D. MOMO, HON. AMADO M. LAYNO, JR., HON. MARGARITA G. GARAY, HON. ANTHONY JOSEPH P. CANEDO, HON. RAUL K. SALAZAR AND HON. VALERIO T. MONTESCLAROS, JR.

WHEREAS, a longstanding boundary conflict exists between the Provinces of Agusan del Sur and Surigao del Sur, specifically involving Barangay Alegria in the Municipality of San Francisco and Barangay Campbagang in the Municipality of Barobo, resulting in a prolonged stalemate between the two provinces;

WHEREAS, Chapter I, Section 118, (c) of the Local Government Code of 1991 provides that boundary disputes involving municipalities or component cities of different provinces shall be jointly referred for settlement to the sanggunians of the provinces concerned;

WHEREAS, this August Body has observed that there is no apparent intention from the counterpart in the Province of Agusan del Sur to amicably settle the boundary dispute, as it does not have a Committee on Boundary Settlement. ~~The resolution of territorial disputes in Agusan del Sur falls under the jurisdiction of the Executive Department or the Governor alone, rather than the Sangguniang Panlalawigan;~~

WHEREAS, ~~due to this structure,~~ the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Agusan del Sur lacks the legal authority to directly engage or communicate with the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Surigao del Sur regarding the boundary dispute;

WHEREAS, during the Committee Meeting dated March 25, 2025, the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Surigao del Sur has taken steps to address the issue and deems it necessary ~~for~~ that the Province of Agusan del Sur has to come up with a counterpart in its Sangguniang Panlalawigan to facilitate discussions and joint actions towards a fair and just resolution;

WHEREAS, the Committee further recommended to recalendar the same for another Committee Meeting for the preparation of a counter-proposal particularly on the provision of the time frame for the status quo, which is set to expire on October 31, 2025. If the matter remains unresolved within the given time frame, it shall automatically be considered as a certification allowing both parties to proceed with the filing of a case in a court of competent jurisdiction, without the need for an additional certification from either party confirming the failure of an amicable settlement, unless a mutual extension is agreed upon;

WHEREAS, a collaborative approach between the two legislative bodies will pave the way for a mutually acceptable resolution and foster stronger intergovernmental relations between the Provinces of Agusan del Sur and Surigao del Sur;

WHEREAS, in view of the foregoing and on motion of _____, and seconded by _____;

N.B. before final printing, pls. present the draft to atty. Azarcon

NOW THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Surigao del Sur to urge the Province of Agusan del Sur to come up with a counterpart of the Committee on Boundary Dispute/Settlement in their Sangguniang Panlalawigan to be able for the two legislative bodies to settle the boundary dispute between the ~~the~~ Provinces of Surigao del sur and Agusan del sur.

RESOLVED FINALLY: To furnish copies of this Resolution to Hon. Santiago B. Cane, Jr., Provincial Governor and to Mr. Samuel E. Tortor, Vice Governor and Presiding Officer, Gov. Democrito O. Plaza Government Center, Prosperidad, all of the Province of Agusan del Sur, for their information and appropriate action.

ADOPTED this 11th day of March, 2025 at the City of Bislig, Province of Surigao del Sur by unanimous votes of all the Sangguniang Panlalawigan Members present.