

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

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **3566**



Introduced by: Representative Manuel Jose M. Dalipe

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This proposed legislative measure formally seeks to create four (4) additional branches of the Regional Trial Court to be stationed in the City of Zamboanga.

On November 12, 2012, RA 10301 was enacted into law increasing by four (4) the number of Regional Trial Courts in Zamboanga City. However, these four (4) RTCs namely; Branch 32, 33, 34 and 35 are not fully operational. RTC judges for Branch 32 and 33 were just recently appointed by the previous Administration without any manpower support, while Branch 34 and 35 are still undergoing screening processing of applications for judges by the Judicial and Bar Council (JBC).

At present, the number of pending volume cases for the existing six (6) Regional Trial Courts in Zamboanga City are as follows:

1) RTC Branch 13	3,274
2) RTC Branch 12	314
3) RTC Branch 15	829
4) RTC Branch 14	653
5) RTC Branch 17	480
6) RTC Branch 16	681

It is noteworthy to state that RTC Branch 13 has the highest pending cases as it is the lone court that handles drug cases.

Due to the increase of population in the City of Zamboanga coupled with the intensified campaign of the Duterte Administration against illegal drugs by law enforcement agencies, it is now imperative to increase the number of RTC by four (4) in order to cope with the ever increasing number of incoming cases particularly drug cases.

The proposed creation of additional four (4) RTC Branches is ultimately for the purpose of improving the disposition and administration of justice in consonant with the constitutional guarantee of speedy trial of all cases.

In view of the foregoing reasons, early passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Dalipe', with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end.

MANUEL JOSE M. DALIPE
Representative, 2nd District, Zamboanga City

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AN ACT
CREATING FOUR (4) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE NINTH JUDICIAL REGION TO
BE STATIONED AT ZAMBOANGA CITY, AMENDING FOR THE
PURPOSE SECTION 14, PARAGRAPH (J) OF BATAS PAMBANSA
BILANG 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY
REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Four (4) additional Regional Trial Courts to be stationed
at Zamboanga City, hereby created in the Ninth Judicial Region.

The Supreme Court shall assign the branch numbers for the newly-
created branches of the Regional Trial Court in the Ninth Judicial Region.

SECTION 2. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in coordination
with the Secretary of the Department of Justice, shall immediately include in
the Court's program the operationalization of the four (4) additional branches
of the Regional Trial Court to be stationed at Zamboanga City, the funding of
which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 3. Section 14 (j) of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise
known as "The Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980", as amended, and all
other laws, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby
amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
complete publication in the Official Gazette, or in two (2) newspapers of general
circulation.

Approved,