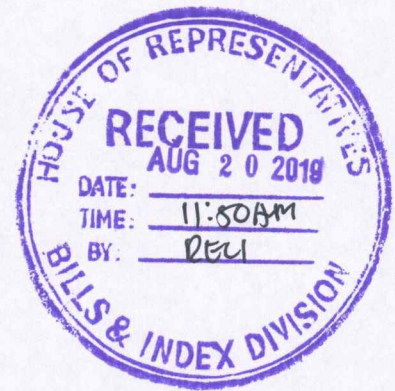


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4039



Introduced by Representative **TYRONE D AGABAS**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to create an additional branch of the Regional Trial Court in the First Judicial Region to be stationed in the Municipality of Asingan, Province of Pangasinan.

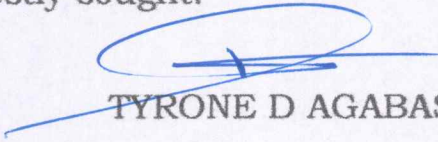
Section 16, Article III of the 1987 Constitution provides, "(a)ll persons shall have the right to speedy disposition of their cases before all judicial, quasi-judicial, or administrative bodies." A Filipino's right to trial does not only secure equal protection of the laws but also mandates a speedy public trial. As exhorted by a famous jurist, "the number one problem of the judiciary is clogged dockets, arising from delays in trial, and delays in deciding cases. Clogged dockets impair social justice, hinder economic development and erode public confidence in the justice system and ultimately in the entire government."

The 6th District of Pangasinan is composed of ten municipalities, namely, Asingan, San Manuel, Sta. Maria, Rosales, Balungao, Umingan, San Quintin, Natividad, San Nicolas, and Tayug. Except for Asingan and San Manuel, the rest of the remaining municipalities are catered by Regional Trial Courts stationed at Tayug and Rosales. The Municipalities of Asingan and San Manuel are catered by Regional Trial Courts stationed at the City of Urdaneta. Currently, the Regional Trial Courts of Urdaneta are also experiencing case load problems arising from clogged dockets and trial delays. While understandably, the solution to clogged dockets is a combination of different measures, it is proposed that a separate Regional Trial Court be created in the Municipality of Asingan which shall have exclusive jurisdiction over the Municipalities of Asingan

and San Manuel so as to unbind the Regional Trial Courts of Urdaneta from caseloads coming from Asingan and San Manuel.

Since public office is public trust, it is the responsibility of the State to prevent delays in the disposition of cases.

Hence, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



TYRONE D AGABAS

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4039

Introduced by Representative **TYRONE D. AGABAS**

AN ACT

CREATING AN ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE FIRST JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ASINGAN, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14, PARAGRAPH (A) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **SECTION 1.** There is hereby created an additional branch of
2 the Regional Trial Court in the First Judicial Region to be
3 stationed in the Municipality of Asingan, Province of
4 Pangasinan.

5 The Supreme Court shall assign the branch number of
6 the newly created branch of the Regional Trial Court in the
7 First Judicial Region.

8 **SEC. 2.** The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in
9 coordination with the Secretary of the Department of Justice,
10 shall immediate include in the Court's program the
11 operationalization of the Regional Trial Court branch to be

12 stationed in the Municipality of Asingan, Province of
13 Pangasinan, the funding of which shall be included in the
14 annual General Appropriations Act.

15 **SEC. 3.** Section 14(a) of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise
16 known as "The Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980", as
17 amended, and all other laws, rules and regulations which are
18 inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed or
19 modified accordingly.

20 **SEC. 4.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
21 complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2)
22 newspapers of general circulation.

23 Approved,