

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Eighteenth Congress
First Regular Session

5789
HOUSE BILL NO. _____



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ISAGANI S. AMATONG

EXPLANATORY NOTE


“Justice delayed is justice denied.” Thus, under the Constitution, “All persons shall have the right to a speedy disposition of their cases before all judicial, quasi-judicial, or administrative bodies.” In order to comply with this constitutional mandate, it is therefore imperative that the State increases the number of its courts to meet the increasing number of cases being filed and to improve the administration of justice.

To date, there is only one (1) Regional Trial Court in the Municipality of Liloy, with a total caseload of 608 cases as of September 2019, more than double of the manageable level of 300 cases as recommended by the Supreme Court’s Office of the Court Administrator. From 2018 to 2019, only 382 out of the total 1100 pending and newly filed cases had been decided or resolved by the RTC of Liloy.

The high caseload invariably results in clogged court docket, slow dispensation of justice, and erosion of the people’s trust in our justice system. This measure, which creates an additional branch of RTC to be stationed in the Municipality of Liloy, seeks to address these problems.

It is noteworthy that in the 17th Congress, the Supreme Court’s Office of the Court Administrator has favorably endorsed the creation of two (2) new RTCs in the Municipality of Liloy during the deliberations of the Committee of Justice of the House of Representatives. Unfortunately, only one (1) RTC was created under Republic Act No. 11456.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


ISAGANI S. AMATONG

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AN ACT
CREATING AN ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE
3RD DISTRICT OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE, TO BE STATIONED IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF LILOY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14,
PARAGRAPH (J) 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 and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. One (1) Regional Trial Court branch to be stationed in the Municipality of Lilooy, is hereby created in the Ninth Judicial Region.

The Supreme Court shall assign the branch number of the newly created Regional Trial Court branch in the Ninth Judicial Region.

SEC. 2. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in coordination with the Secretary of Justice, shall immediately include in the Court's program the implementation of this Act.

The amount necessary for the creation and the continuous funding therefore shall likewise be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. The funds necessary shall be appropriated and released only upon the actual organization of the court and appointment of its personnel.

SEC. 3. Section 14(j) of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as the "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.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

