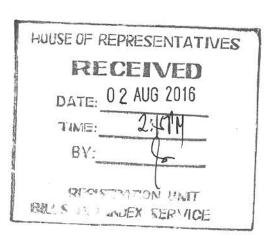
Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Quezon City

**Seventeenth Congress**First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 2299

Introduced by HONORABLE MELECIO J. YAP, JR.

## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

This bill seeks to create one (1) additional branch of the Regional Trial Court to be stationed in the City of Escalante, Province of Negros Occidental in the Sixth Judicial Region.

It must be noted that by geographical location, the First District of Negros Occidental comprised of 2 cities, namely, Escalante and San Carlos and 3 other municipalities, namely, Toboso, Calatrava and Salvador Benedicto, is more or less 146 kilo meters away from the metro Bacolod, the center of the province. The 2 aforementioned cities serve as the island gateways to other islands and provinces making it susceptible to inland migration.

Though there is an existing Regional Trial Court in San Carlos City, it cannot cope with the increasing number of cases that need preferential attention and speedy action relative to the ever increasing population in the First District of the Negros Occidental.

The delay in the dispensation of justice due to lack of salas especially at the level of the Regional Trial Court is tantamount to denying our constituents with justice that they rightfully deserve. As mandated by the constitution, social justice is not a privilege but rather, a right that everyone must be assured with.

Henceforth, it is imperative to create one (1) additional branch of the Regional Trial Court to be stationed in the City of Escalante, Province of Negros Occidental in the Sixth Judicial Region to empower the community

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with speedy resolution to disputes thereby making this branch in our government closer to the people providing better services threat.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this bill is fervently prayed for.

MELECIO J. YAP, JR.

Representative

1st District of Negros Occidental

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

## HOUSE BILL NO. 2299

Introduced by HONORABLE MELECIO J. YAP, JR.

AN ACT CREATING ONE (1) ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL TO BE STATIONED IN THE CITY OF ESCALANTE, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14, PARAGRAPH (G) 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 House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

**SECTION 1.** One (1) additional branch of the Regional Trial Court to be stationed in the City of Escalante, Province of Negros Occidental is hereby created in the Sixth Judicial Region.

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

- **SECTION 2.** The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in coordination with Secretary of the Department of Justice shall include in the Court's program the operationalization of one additional branch of the Regional Trial Court in the Province of Negros Occidental to be stationed in Escalante City, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.
- **SECTION 3.** Separability Clause. Should there be any section of this Act that is deemed unconstitutional or in contrast with any existing laws and regulations, the other sections or provisions thereof shall not be affected thereby and shall remain in full force and effect.
- **SECTION 4.** Section 14 (g) 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 any provision of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

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**SECTION 7.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in at least two (2) national newspapers in general circulations.

Approved.

