

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
FIRST REGULAR SESSION)



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Introduced by Representative Rufus B.

House Res No. **215**

A RESOLUTION

URGING THE SUPREME COURT OF THE PHILIPPINES TO SERIOUSLY CONSIDER THE HOLDING OF THE ANNUAL BAR EXAMINATIONS IN MANILA, CEBU CITY AND CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY SIMULTANEOUSLY

WHEREAS, the Philippine Bar Examination is the professional licensure examination for would-be lawyers in the Philippines and is widely considered the most difficult licensure examination in the country;

WHEREAS, at present, Section 11, Rule 138 (Attorneys and Admission to BAR) of the Rules of Court provide that, "Examinations for admission to the bar of the Philippines shall take place annually in the City of Manila..";

WHEREAS, in recent years, various law schools in the Visayas and in Mindanao have called for the decentralization of the BAR exams and have the exams held simultaneously in Manila, Visayas and Mindanao;

WHEREAS, according to the Supreme Court, it would be very difficult to conduct BAR exams outside of Manila because of budgetary constraints and the difficulty of ensuring the integrity of the test questions to prevent leakages particularly when the questioners are being transported;

WHEREAS, last 2013, the Supreme Court issued a resolution Nov. 19, 2013, the Supreme Court immediately made an action to study the matter;

WHEREAS, there has been no update on the matter and until today, the BAR Exams are still held in Metro Manila;

WHEREAS, many BAR takers from outside Manila have additional difficulties in going to Manila and staying there for four weeks and it would even be more disadvantageous for the examinees from the provinces, not only financially but also emotionally and psychologically;

WHEREAS, as early as 2010, many law schools in the Visayas and Mindanao have already requested the Supreme Court to also hold the Bar Exams in regional centers like Cebu and Cagayan de Oro City;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives to urge the Supreme Court of the Philippines to seriously consider the holding of the annual BAR examinations in Manila, Cebu city and Cagayan de Oro city simultaneously.

Adopted,



RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ