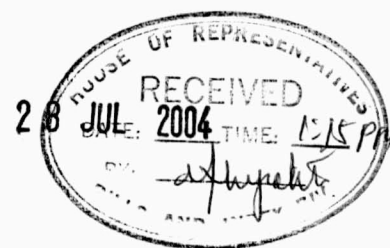


**Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila**



**THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1832

Introduced by **Rep. Rodolfo “Ompong” G. Plaza**

Explanatory Note

This bill seeks the creation of a Regional Trial Court (RTC) in the Municipality of Trento, Province of Agusan del Sur, amending for the purpose Batas Pambansa Blg. 129 otherwise known as the “Judiciary Reorganization of 1981”, and appropriating funds therefor.

The Province of Agusan del Sur has a total population of 559,294 as of May 1, 2000 based on the records of the National Census and Statistics Office. It has only two Regional Trial Court salas, namely Branch 6 in Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur and Branch 7 in Bayugan, Agusan del Sur.

Like Bayugan and Prosperidad, Trento is one of the most-highly urbanized and commercial municipalities of Agusan del Sur where violence is the second leading cause of death among residents. It has a total population of 41,696, with 7,850 households.

Expedition of the resolution of criminal and civil cases pending in Branches 6 and 7 since 1997 has been a concern among residents of Agusan del Sur. An additional RTC Branch will help unclog court dockets and speed up the administration of justice in the province.

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


RODOLFO “OMPONG” G. PLAZA
Lone District of Agusan del Sur

**Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila**

**THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1832

Introduced by **Rep. Rodolfo “Ompong” G. Plaza**

**AN ACT
CREATING ONE ADDITIONAL REGIONAL TRIAL COURT BRANCH IN THE
PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL SUR WITH A SEAT AT THE MUNICIPALITY
OF TRENTO. AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF
1981”, 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. Section 14, paragraph (k) of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as the Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1981, is hereby amended to read as follows:

X X X X X

“(k) {Forty-four} Forty-five Regional Trial Judges shall be commissioned for the Tenth Judicial Region. There shall be:

X X X X X

“{Two} Three branches with seats thereat for the Province of Agusan del Sur, with seats at Prosperidad, Bayugan, and Trento.

X X X X X

SECTION 2. The Supreme Court shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act and if warranted, the realignment of the seats of existing branches and their territorial jurisdictions.

SECTION 3. The amount necessary for the creation of the Regional Trial Court shall be funded out of the appropriations for the Judiciary. Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary for its operation and maintenance shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,