

**Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City**

**THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session**

House Bill No. 2679

Introduced by **SALACNIB F. BATERINA**

AN ACT CREATING TWO ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE CITY OF VIGAN, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS SUR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7472 ENTITLED 'AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 1 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7154 ENTITLED "AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION FOURTEEN OF BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT 1981' BY RESTORING THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT BRANCH IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CANDON AND CREATING TWO ADDITIONAL REGIONAL TRIAL COURT BRANCHES IN THE PROVINCE OF ILOCOS SUR, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFORE' AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE

EXPLANATORY NOTE

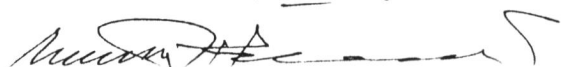
This bill seeks to create two (2) additional branches of the Regional Trial Court for the City of Vigan, Ilocos Sur.

The growing population and the accompanying political, social and economic interaction brought about by the rapid urbanization has invariably increased the number of disputes and court litigation among its inhabitants. The cases filed in the court over the couple of years have increased dramatically, and the continuity of such increase is certain. This increase has created a serious backlog of cases for decision in the existing courts.

It is a familiar truism in this country that "Justice delayed is justice denied". This condition has now become more of a rule rather than the exception, particularly in the City of Vigan, since one of the many causes of delay of dispensing justice is the lack of salas especially in the regional trial court level.

Consequently, there is that imperative need for the creation of two (2) additional branches of the Regional Trial Court for the City of Vigan to enable the courts in this part of the country to give speedy resolution of disputes and thereby provide better service to the people.

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



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

1 SECTION 1. Section 1 of RA 7472 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2 Sec. 1. Section 14, paragraph (a), of Batas Pambansa Bilang 129 as
3 amended is hereby further amended to read as follows:

4 “(a) Seventy-two Regional Trial Judges shall be commissioned for the First
5 Judicial Region. There shall be:

6 “ Three branches with seats thereat for the Province of Abra, with seats at
7 Bangued and Bucay;

8 “Fourteen branches with seats thereat for the Province Benguet and the
9 City of Baguio, with seats at Baguio City, La Trinidad and Buguias;

"Ten branches with seats thereat for the Province of Ilocos Norte and the

City of Laoag, with seats at Laoag City, Batac and Bangui;

"TEN BRANCHES with seats thereat for the Province of Ilocos Sur, with seats at

Vigan City, Narvacan, Candon, Cabugao and Tagudin;

"Eleven branches with seats thereat for the Province of La Union, with seats

at San Fernando City, Agoo, Bauang, and Balaoan;

"Two branches with seats thereat for Mountain Province, with seats at

Bontoc and;

"Twenty-four branches with seats thereat for the Province of Pangasinan

and the Cities of Dagupan and San Carlos, with seats at Lingayen, Dagupan

City, Urdaneta, Villasis, Tayug, Rosales, Alaminos, Burgos, and San Carlos City."

SECTION 2. All expenditures necessary for the initial implementation of

this Act shall be charged against the Appropriations of the Supreme Court of

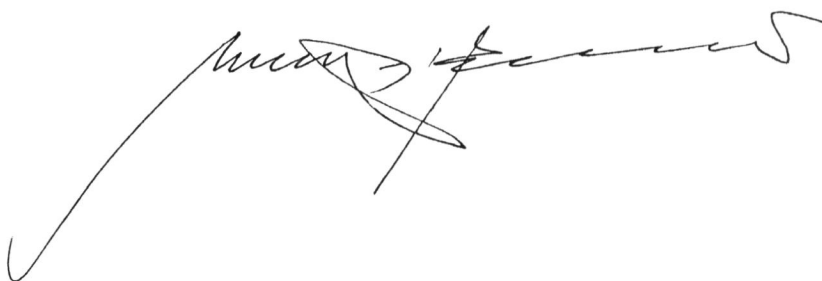
the Philippines under the General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, all such sums

as may be necessary for the continued operations and maintenance of the

said courts shall be incorporated in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved.

A large, stylized handwritten signature is written over a long horizontal line. To the left of the signature, a large checkmark is drawn.