

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



House Bill 3493

Introduced by Deputy Speaker Emilio R. Espinosa, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It has been oftentimes quoted that "Justice delayed is justice denied", although painstakingly, litigants still patiently await for their vindication, no matter how long it may sometime take. The problem of delay in the prosecution of court cases is sadly endemic in our system. The sometimes unreasonableness in the delay breeds the dark appearance of corruption and partiality although the problem is caused by factors other than systemic. Admittedly in judicial publications, the backlog of court cases constitute in most part the unreasonableness of the delay - there exist just too many cases for the courts to resolve on.

Since the creation of Masbate City, the lone Branch of the Municipal Trial Court in Cities has as of October 30, 2004 a case load of Six Hundred Two (602) criminal cases and One Hundred Five (105) civil cases. This volume inevitably increases considering the City Prosecutor's daily input of cases. As early as the month of August of this year the resetting of criminal cases are scheduled for the January 2005 Court calendar already despite the effort at more disposal/resolution of cases. Unless this is remedied, the presiding judge and his staff will continue to be overburdened with these loads of cases which may negatively affect their performance and the quality of decisions to be rendered, gravely detrimental to the administration of justice.

In view of the clearly systemic problem, at the behest of the interest of my constituents and the disposal of quality justice for all, it is implored by this humble representation that a Branch 2 of the MTCC be created to supplement the operation of the MTCC now existing and lessen the backlog of cases pending in a single Judicial Branch in our City and afford our people the speedy, fair and impartial justice due them.


EMILIO R. ESPINOSA, JR.

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**AN ACT CREATING ONE (1) ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE MUNICIPAL
TRIAL COURT IN CITIES IN MASBATE CITY, PROVINCE OF MASBATE
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF**

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

Section 1. Creation. – In addition to the existing Municipal Trial Court in Cities in Masbate City, there is hereby created Branch 2 of the Municipal Trial Court in Cities in Masbate City.

Section 2. Implementing Rules and Regulations – The Supreme Court of the Republic of the Philippines shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this Act.

Section 3. Appropriations – The necessary amount for the creation of the court herein mandated shall be charged against the appropriations of the Supreme Court for the year immediately succeeding the passage of this Act. Thereafter, a sufficient sum for their maintenance shall be charged against the annual appropriations of the supreme Court.

Section 4. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

Approved,