

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

Third Regular Session

House Bill No. 5802

Introduced by Representative Prospero C. Nograles

EXPLANATORY NOTE

There is an urgent need for the creation of additional Metropolitan Trial Court branches in Davao City particularly in its far-flung barangays to facilitate the speedy disposition of cases. The dockets of the city's courts are highly congested. Litigants from remote barangays live very far from the Hall of Justice and the cost of transportation from their residence to the courts is very prohibitive. These factors greatly contribute to the delay in the disposition of cases in the city.

Because of the low rate of case disposition, peace and order has been affected in Davao City and crime rate has gone up despite sustained and vigorous efforts exerted by the city government to curtail it. The situation undoubtedly affects economic and social development in the city.

Immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Prospero C. Nograles".

PROSPERO C. NOGRALES

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AN ACT
CREATING THREE (3) ADDITIONAL METROPOLITAN TRIAL COURT
BRANCHES IN DAVAO CITY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
SECTION 29 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 the House of Representatives of the
Philippines in Congress assembled:*

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 29 of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise
2 known as "The Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980," as amended, is hereby
3 further amended to read as follows:

4 "SEC. 29. *Municipal Trial Courts in cities* - In every city which
5 does not form part of a metropolitan area, there shall be a Municipal
6 Trial Court with one branch except as hereunder provided:

7 "Two branches for Laoag City;

8 "Four branches for Baguio City;

9 "Three branches for Dagupan City;

10 "Five branches for Olongapo City;

11 "Three branches for Cabanatuan City;

12 "Two branches for San Jose City;

- 1 "Three branches for Angeles City;
- 2 "Two branches for Cavite City;
- 3 "Two branches for Batangas City;
- 4 "Two branches for Lucena City;
- 5 "Three branches for Naga City;
- 6 "Two branches for Iriga City;
- 7 "Three branches for Legaspi City;
- 8 "Two branches for Roxas City;
- 9 "Four branches for Iloilo City;
- 10 "Seven branches for Bacolod City;
- 11 "Two branches for Dumaguete City;
- 12 "Two branches for Tacloban City;
- 13 "Eight branches for Cebu City;
- 14 "Three branches for Mandaue City;
- 15 "Two branches for Tagbilaran City;
- 16 "Two branches for Surigao City;
- 17 "Two branches for Butuan City;
- 18 "Five branches for Cagayan de Oro City;
- 19 "TEN [Seven] branches for Davao City;
- 20 "Three branches for General Santos City;
- 21 "Two branches for Oroquieta City;
- 22 "Three branches for Dipolog City;
- 23 "Four branches for Zamboanga City;
- 24 "Two branches for Pagadian City; and

1 "Two branches for Iligan City."

2 **SEC. 2.** The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court in coordination with
3 the Secretary of the Department of Justice shall immediately include in the
4 Court's program the operationalization of the three (3) additional Metropolitan
5 Trial Court branches in Davao City which shall each be located in Toril,
6 Calinan and Sasa districts.

7 **SEC. 3.** The amount needed for the effective implementation of this
8 Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

9 **SEC. 4.** All laws, decrees, orders and issuances inconsistent with the
10 provisions of this Act shall be considered amended or modified accordingly.

11 **SEC. 5.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
12 in at least two (2) newspapers of national circulation.