

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

Fifteenth Congress

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 42



Introduced by Honorable Pedro B. Acharon, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish two additional branches of the Regional Trial Court in the Province of South Cotabato and General Santos City, amending for the purpose Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as the "*Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980*," as amended.

With the continuous deluge of cases, the disposition of court cases in South Cotabato and General Santos City have become very slow. Thus, the administration of justice, being one of the primordial concerns and functions of the government, is oftentimes compromised.

The passage of this bill is necessary to provide impetus to Section 16 of Article II (*Bill of Rights*) which declares that, "*all persons shall have the right to a speedy disposition of their cases before all judicial, quasi-judicial or administrative bodies.*"

The courts should serve the best interest of the public and answer the growing demand for the immediate resolution of cases which presently clog the dockets and slow down the dispensation of justice in South Cotabato and General Santos City. Hence, the creation of two additional branches of RTC in the Eleventh Judicial Region is of utmost importance for the people of Cotabato.

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


PEDRO B. ACHARON, JR.

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HOUSE BILL NO. 42



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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING TWO ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL
TRIAL COURT IN THE PROVINCE OF SOUTH COTABATO AND
GENERAL SANTOS CITY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE "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 House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress Assembled:

SECTION 1. Section 14 of Batas Pambansa Bilang 129, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 14. *Regional Trial Courts.* –

(a) xxx

xxx

xxx

xxx

(l) [Forty-one] FORTY-THREE Regional Trial Judges shall
be commissioned for the Eleventh Judicial Region. There shall be:

xxx

xxx

xxx

xxx

[Ten] TWELVE branches with seats thereat for the Province of South Cotabato and the City of General Santos, with seats at General Santos City, Koronadal, Surallah, Alabel, and Polomolok; and

xxx

xxx

xxx.”

SEC. 2. The amount necessary for the effective implementation of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations for the Supreme Court. Thereafter, such amount as may be necessary for the continuous implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,