

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

H. B. No. 619

Introduced by HONORABLE JUAN EDGARDO "SONNY" M. ANGARA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

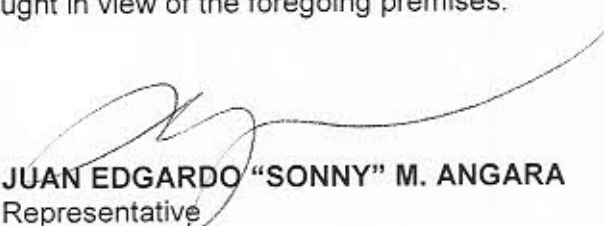
This Bill seeks to amend Section 14 Paragraphs (c) and (e) of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as the Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1981, as amended, providing an additional branch of the Regional Trial Court in the Province of Aurora to be stationed at the Municipality of Casiguran and transferring Province of Aurora from Fourth Judicial Region to Third Judicial Region in accordance with Executive Order 103, otherwise known as Dividing Region IV into Region IV-A and Region IV-B, Transferring the Province of Aurora to Region III.

The province of Aurora has eight (8) municipalities. It has been observed that as population increases, the number of cases being filed also increases. The existing two (2) branches of Regional Trial Courts in the Province are storing up piles of cases, hence, the delays of litigating a case before the sala of a Regional Trial Court. This would reasonably imply that "justice delayed is justice denied."

Article III, Section 16 of the 1987 Constitution mandates that: "All persons shall have the right to speedy disposition of the cases before all judicial, quasi-judicial or any administrative bodies." Giving attention to this call is practically what every citizen in this country is aiming for.

Providing an additional RTC branch in the Municipality of Casiguran will serve not only its constituents but also the constituents from its neighboring towns. This will likewise reduce the number of case backlogs in the RTCs in Baler. In addition, the establishment of an RTC in Casiguran will clearly lessen the burden, both physically and financially, endured by people in traveling long distance just to go to Baler for court hearings.

The approval of this measure is earnestly sought in view of the foregoing premises.



JUAN EDGARDO "SONNY" M. ANGARA
Representative
Lone District, Province of Aurora

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

H. B. No. 619

Introduced by Honorable JUAN EDGARDO "SONNY" M. ANGARA

AN ACT
CREATING A REGIONAL TRIAL COURT BRANCH IN THE PROVINCE OF AURORA
TO BE STATIONED AT THE MUNICIPALITY OF CASIGURAN, AMENDING FOR
THE PURPOSE SECTION (14), PARAGRAPHS (C) AND (E) OF BATAS PAMBANSA
BILANG 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT
OF 1981," 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, paragraph (c) and (e) of Batas Pambansa Bilang 129, otherwise known as "The Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1981," as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 14. *Regional Trial Courts.* –
"x x x

(c) **[Eighty Nine] NINETY TWO** Regional Trial judges shall be commissioned for the Third Judicial Region. There shall be:

"x x x

"[Two] THREE branches for the Province of Aurora with seats at Baler and CASIGURAN."

(e) **[Ninety Six] NINETY FOUR** Regional Trial judges shall be commissioned for the Fourth Judicial Region. There shall be:

"xxx

"[Two branches for the Province of Aurora with seats at Baler;]

SEC. 2. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in coordination with the Secretary of the Department of Justice, shall immediately include in the Court's program the operationalization of a Regional Trial Court branch for the Province of Aurora to be stationed at Municipality of Casiguran, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

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

Approved,