

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1315

Introduced by HON. FLORENCIO C. GARAY

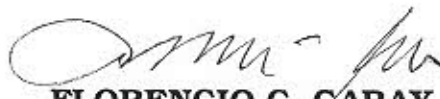
EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article 3, Section 6 of the Constitution guarantees the the right to a speedy disposition of cases before all judicial, quasi-judicial or admibnistrative bodies. Pursuant to this mandate, the Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980 (Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, as amended by RA 7154) has provided for the creation of a lone Branch of the Regional Trial Court in the then Municipality of Bislig, Province of Surigao del Sur.

However, as of September 1, 1995, Bislig's population rose to 103,668. In 2000, Bislig was declared a component city by virtue of Republic Act No. 8804. With the advent of these changes, the lone regional trial court has become incapable of effectively handling the rapid increase in court cases, resulting in clogged dockets and a marked delay in the dispensation of justice.

As a solution to this dilemma, this bill seeks to establish an additional branch of the Regional Trial Court in the City of Bislig, Province of Surigao del Sur. The establishment of this additional branch would greatly contribute towards the fulfillment of the Judiciary's goal of delivering fair, impartial and swift justice, and thus disprove the concept "justice delayed is justice denied."

Considering its vital importance, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


FLORENCIO C. GARAY

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HOUSE BILL NO. 62 1315

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AN ACT

ESTABLISHING AN ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT FOR THE PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR TO BE STATIONED AT THE CITY OF BISLIG, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14, PARAGRAPH (L) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980', AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7154, 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 (1) of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as "*The Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980*", as amended by Section 12 of Republic Act No. 7154, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"(1) [Forty-one] **FORTY-TWO** Regional Trial Judges shall be commissioned for the Eleventh Judicial Region. There shall be:

"X X X

"[Five] **SIX** branches for the Province of Surigao del Sur, with seats at Tandag, Lianga, **BISLIG CITY**, and Cantilan.

"X X X."

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 establishment of an additional branch of the Regional Trial Court in the City of Bislig, Province of Surigao del Sur, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

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

Approved,