

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1422

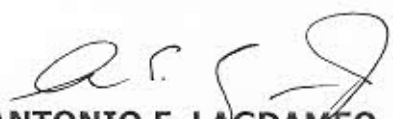
Introduced by: HONORABLE ANTONIO F. LAGDAMEO, JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Part of the Social Reform Agenda that the present administration is vigorously pursuing is judicial reform. This reform must be able to address the clamor of the constituents for an efficient and effective judiciary.

This bill seeks to create a Municipal Trial Court in Sto. Tomas, Davao del Norte, which has a population of more than 85,000. At present, this municipality avails of the services of a Municipal Circuit Trial Court in the distant Municipality of Carmen. Serving these equally progressive and populous municipalities must have become a nightmare to the judge of said court considering that year after year, cases submitted for his consideration have grown by leaps and bounds resulting in backlogs of alarming proportion. As most these cases emanate from Sto. Tomas, complaints and litigants of the locality have felt the sting of the clichè, "justice delayed, justice denied." It is therefore necessary to unload the heavy burden of this court if it were to resolve cases speedily and impartially, and the only way to do this is through the creation of the Municipal Trial Court in the above mentioned place and assigning permanent judge thereto. Only then will the reform program be real to the people.

Passage of this bill is thus urgently called for.


ANTONIO F. LAGDAMEO, JR.

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HOUSE BILL NO. **1422**

Introduced by HONORABLE ANTONIO F. LAGDAMEO, JR.

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR A BRANCH OF THE MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF STO. TOMAS, DAVAO DEL NORTE, AMENDING FOR
THE PURPOSE SECTION THIRTY OF BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG ISANG
DAAN AT DALAWAMPU'T SIYAM, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980, APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Section 30 of Batasa Pambansa Bilang 129 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 30. Municipal Trial Court, In each of the municipalities that are not comprised within a metropolitan circuit there shall be a Municipal Trial Court which shall have one branch, except as hereunder provided:"

ONE (1) BRANCH FOR STO. TOMAS, DAVAO DEL NORTE

SECTION 2. The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations of the Supreme Court of the Philippines under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, all such sum as may be necessary for the continued operations and maintenance of the said courts shall be included in the annual appropriations.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its approval

Approved.