

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

15th Congress

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 2226

Introduced by **HON. MANUEL S. AGYAO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish an additional Regional Trial Court (RTC) in the Province of Kalinga, to be stationed in the Municipality of Lubuagan, Kalinga, by amending pertinent provisions of Batas Pambansa Bilang Isangdaan at Dalawampung Siyam (129) for said purpose to conform to the provisions of the same with the conversion of the sub-provinces of Kalinga and Apayao effected by Republic Act. No.7878.

This Bill was filed in the 11th, 12th, 13th, and again in the 14th Congress under Substitute Bill 4351 but due to intervening events, the Bill remained pending in the Senate and later on archived at the close of the 14th Congress. In recognition of the important role of delivering justice to the people of Kalinga, the undersigned has refiled the Bill.

Kalinga, having now one component city, being the capital City of Tabuk, has grown in population over the years. This growth of population of the whole Province and the simultaneous increase of business and commercial activities has resulted to the increase of caseloads being held and heard by the only RTC Branch XXV stationed in the City of Tabuk. Today, the dockets of RTC Branch XXV is bursting in the seams and party litigants have to wait unbearably for their cases to be heard.

“ Justice delayed is justice denied”. It is therefore crucial that additional sala of Regional Trial Court in the Province of Kalinga, to be stationed in the Municipality of Lubuagan, being the most convenient among the municipalities in upper Kalinga, be established in order that speedy justice is delivered to all.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this Bill is earnestly sought.


MANUEL S. AGYAO

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HOUSE BILL NO. 2226

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AN ACT CREATING ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE PROVINCE OF KALINGA TO BE STATIONED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LUBUAGAN, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14, PARAGRAPH (B) 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 House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

1. SECTION 1. Section 14, paragraph (b) of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129 otherwise known
2. as the Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980, as amended, is hereby further amended to read
3. as follows:
4. “SEC.14. *Regional Trial Courts.*-
5. “(b) Thirty- [eight] **NINE** Regional Trial Judges shall be commissioned for the Second
6. Judicial Region. There shall be:
7. “x x x
8. “[Two] **THREE** branches with seats thereat for the Provinces of Kalinga [-] **AND**
9. Apayao, with seats at Tabuk, **Lubuagan** and Luna;
10. “ x x x”
11. SECTION 2. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court in coordination with the Secretary of
12. Justice shall immediately include in the Court's program, the operationalization of an additional
13. Regional Trial Court to be stationed at the Municipality of Lubuagan, the funding of which
14. shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.
15. SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,