

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3372

Introduced by: REP. MEL SENEN S. SARMIENTO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish two additional branches of Municipal Trial Court in the City of Calbayog in Samar amending for the purpose Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as the Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980.

The city is growing fast with a population now of more than 160,000. Corollary to the city's urbanization is the deluge of cases that has continued to pile up in the lone MTC branch in the city. The situation has been exacerbated by the retirement of the judge in 2010.

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 Calbayog City. Hence, the creation of two additional branches of MTC in the Eighth Judicial Region is of utmost importance for the people of Calbayog.

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


MEL SENEN S. SARMIENTO

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING TWO ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE
MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT IN THE CITY OF CALBAYOG,
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:

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 29 of Batas Pambansa Bilang 129, as amended, is hereby
2 further amended adding to the list of those cities allowed to have more than one
3 branch of Municipal Trial Court to read as follows:

4 “SEC. 29. *Municipal Trial Courts in cities.* –In every city which does not
5 form part of a metropolitan area, there shall be a Municipal Trial Court with
6 one branch, except as hereunder provided:

7 Two branches for Laoag City;

8 Four branches for Baguio City;

9 **THREE BRANCHES FOR CALBAYOG CITY;**

10 Three branches for Dagupan City;

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

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

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9 Approved,