



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 3672

Introduced by Honorable Raul A. Daza

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The attached bill is similar to a bill introduced during the 13th Congress which was approved by the House of Representatives but the same was not considered by the Senate due to time constraints.

It is being reintroduced so as to add one Regional Trial Court (RTC) branch in the Municipality of San Isidro, Province of Northern Samar, Eight Judicial Region.

Presently, the RTC Branch in the Municipality of Allen has jurisdiction over seven municipalities, four of which are big towns. The ever-increasing number of cases of at least ten to twenty cases a week in the said RTC Branch makes it urgently necessary to provide one additional judge/branch. The judge presiding over the RTC Branch in the Municipality of Allen cannot cope with all the pending cases which are bound to increase unless there is an additional judge/branch.

The proposed RTC Branch in the Municipality of San Isidro shall have jurisdiction over the Municipalities of San Isidro, San Antonio, Capul, and San Vicente. Accordingly, the RTC Branch in the Municipality of Allen shall have jurisdiction over the Municipalities of Allen, Lavezares and Victoria.

Approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


RAUL A. DAZA

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AN ACT

CREATING ONE ADDITIONAL REGIONAL TRIAL COURT BRANCH FOR THE PROVINCE OF NORTHERN SAMAR, WITH STATION AT THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN ISIDRO, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14, PARAGRAPH (i) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE JUDICIARY ACT OF 1981.

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

SECTION 1. Section 14, paragraph (i) of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, as amended, otherwise known as the Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1981, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(i) Forty-TWO Regional Trial Judges shall be commissioned for the Eight Judicial Region. There shall be:

"Five branches with seats thereat for the Province of Eastern Samar, with seats at Borongan, Guiuan, Dolores and Oras;

"Seventeen branches with seats thereat for the Province of Leyte, the Sub-province of Biliran, and the Cities of Ormoc and Tacloban, with seats at Tacloban City, Abuyog, Calubian, Ormoc City, Carigara, Baybay, Burauen, Naval, Palompom, Hilongos, and Caibiran;

"[Six] SEVEN branches with seats thereat for the Province of Northern Samar, with seats at Catarman, Laoang, Allen, SAN ISIDRO and Gamay;

"Four branches with seats thereat for the Province of Southern Leyte, with seats at Maasin, San Juan and Sogod; and

"Nine branches with seats thereat for the Province of Samar and the City of Calbayog, with seats at Catbalogan, Basey, Calbayog City, Calbiga, Tarangnan, and Gandara."

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 one additional regional trial court branch for the Province of Northern Samar, with station at the Municipality of San Isidro, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

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

Approved,