

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4968

Introduced by Representative Linabelle Ruth R. Villarica
4th District, Bulacan

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Regional Trial Courts in Bulacan with seats in the City of Malolos have 12,330 pending cases as of December 2009. Most the branches have a case load of over 200 cases. This number does not account for the new cases that may be filed and/or raffled to each branch.

This bill seeks to create an additional Regional Trial Court to address the issue of case congestion in the province and to ensure the speedy disposition of cases. The seat of this additional regional trial court shall be in Meycauayan City in order to widen the latitude of access to justice by the poor.

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



REP. LINABELLE RUTH R. VILLARICA

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**AN ACT CREATING AN ADDITIONAL REGIONAL TRIAL COURT BRANCH IN
THE PROVINCE OF BULACAN TO BE STATIONED IN THE CITY OF
MEYCAUAYAN, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14,
PARAGRAPH (C) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 129 OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980,
AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE**

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

Section 1. Section 14, Paragraph (g) of Batas Pambansa Bilang 129 otherwise known as
the Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980, as amended, is hereby further amended to
read as follows:

"Sec. 14. Regional Trial Courts.

X X X

(c) [Ninety six] **NINETY SEVEN** Regional Trial Judges shall be
commissioned for the Third Judicial Region. There shall be:

X X X

[Twenty seven] **TWENTY EIGHT** branches for the province of
Bulacan with seats at Malolos **AND MEYCAUAYAN**;

X X X"

Section 2. The Supreme Court shall assign the additional Regional Trial Court branch in the City of Meycauayan.

Section 3. The Supreme Court shall cause the construction of the office of the additional Regional Trial Court branch Meycauayan City and the assignment of the presiding Judge thereat.

Section 4. 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 the additional Regional Trial Court branch in the Province of Bulacan with seat at the City of Meycauayan, the funding for which shall be included in the General Appropriations Act.

Section 5. All laws, rules and regulations, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

Section 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved