

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5540



Introduced by HON. EDGAR S. SAN LUIS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 16, Article III of our Constitution gives each person the right to a speedy trial as it provides that "All persons shall have the right to a speedy disposition of their cases before all judicial, quasi-judicial or administrative bodies."

The Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980 (BP 129) allotted the corresponding number of courts per judicial region based on the exigencies existing at that time.

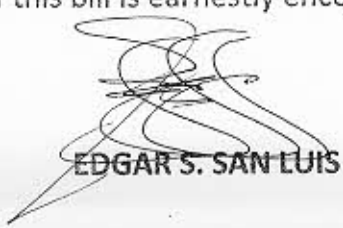
Twenty seven years have passed since the effectivity of BP 129.

Because of the increase in our population and the increase in the volume of cases filed, our court dockets have been clogged and this has resulted in the delay of the resolution of cases.

Based from the data and recommendations of the Office of the Court Administrator, the four (4) existing branches of the Regional Trial Court in the Municipality of Sta. Cruz, Province of Laguna has a caseload of 2,190. Taking into consideration the ideal caseload of 300-450 per RTC branch, the ideal number of RTC branches for the said municipality is 5. Hence, the proposal to create an additional branch.

In order to have an effective and efficient administration of justice, it is very important that there is a speedy resolution of court cases. It is in this context that the number of courts must necessarily be increased.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly encouraged.


EDGAR S. SAN LUIS

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AN ACT CREATING AN ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF STA. CRUZ, PROVINCE OF LAGUNA, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 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:

SECTION 1. One (1) additional Regional Trial Court branch for Sta. Cruz, Laguna, with seat thereat, is hereby created in the Fourth Judicial Region.

SECTION 2. The Supreme Court shall assign the respective branch number for the newly created branch.

SECTION 3. 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 implementation of this Act. The funding therefor shall likewise be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 4. Section 14 (e) of Batas Pambansa Bilang 129, otherwise known as "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980," as amended, as well as other provisions that may be inconsistent herewith, is hereby deemed repealed, modified and/or further amended.

SECTION 5. Effectivity. — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,