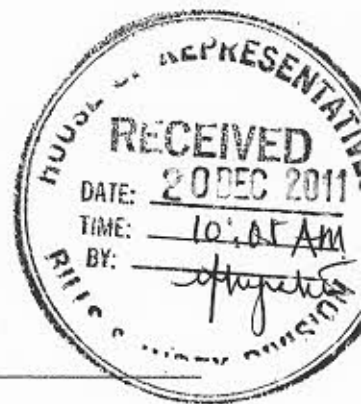


Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5659



Introduced by Honorable Kimi S. Cojuangco

Explanatory Note

This bill seeks to create two additional Regional Trial Court branches in Urdaneta City, Pangasinan. The proposed measure aims to hasten the handling and disposition of cases in compliance with Section 16, Article III of the 1987 Constitution, calling for the speedy disposition of cases.

At present, the Regional Trial Courts in Urdaneta City are experiencing a backlog in cases. The limited resources of the already existing RTC branches combined with the amount of cases being filed has led to a delay in the administration of justice. Following the data from the Office of the Court Administrator, the total caseload of the five existing RTC branches at the City of Urdaneta is 2,635. This means an average caseload of 527 per branch. Taking into consideration the manageable caseload of 300 to 450 per branch, it is clear that the number of RTC branches for the said city should be at least 6. Taking this into account, this proposed measure becomes imperative.

Adding two additional branches will help in the unclogging, as well as decreasing the number of caseloads for the already existing RTC branches. Two new branches will allow for the handling of more cases in the future meaning the quick disposition of cases.

Every citizen is given the right to speedy disposition of cases and with the current situation, their right is being denied. The addition of two RTC branches proposed in this measure will help in alleviating the situation in the City of Urdaneta and is therefore highly recommended.


HON. KIMI S. COJUANGCO

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16 AN ACT
17 CREATING TWO ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL
18 TRIAL COURT IN THE FIRST JUDICIAL REGION TO BE
19 STATIONED AT URDANETA CITY, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN,
20 FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE BATAS PAMBANSA
21 BILANG 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY
22 REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980," AS AMENDED, AND
23 APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE
24

25 *Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in*
26 *Congress assembled:*
27

28 **SECTION 1.** Two (2) additional Regional Trial Court branches for
29 Urdaneta City, Pangasinan, with seats thereat, are hereby created in the
30 First Judicial Region.
31

32 **SECTION 2.** The Supreme Court shall assign the respective branch
33 number for the newly created branches.
34

35 **SECTION 3.** The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in coordination
36 with the Secretary of the Department of Justice, shall immediately include
37 in the Court's program the implementation of this Act. The funding therefor
38 shall likewise be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.
39

40 **SECTION 4.** Section 14 (a) of Batas Pambansa Bilang 129, otherwise
41 known as the "The Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980," as amended, as
42 well as other provisions that may be inconsistent herewith, are hereby
43 deemed repealed, modified, and/or further amended.
44

45 **SECTION 5.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
46 completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers
47 of general circulation.
48

49 *Approved,*
50