

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6459



Introduced by HONORABLE LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE

EXPLANATORY NOTE

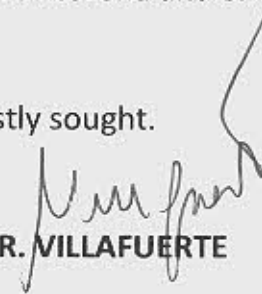
This Bill provides for the creation of an additional branch of the Regional Trial Court (RTC) for the Province of Camarines Sur that will be stationed in the Municipality of Calabanga.

The Municipality of Calabanga is a first class municipality and is one of the biggest municipalities in the Province of Camarines Sur in terms of population and land area. It has 48 barangays, with 14 barangays within the urban area and with 34 barangays in the rural areas. Considering its large population, 73,333 according to the 2007 census, Calabanga urgently needs another RTC branch to cater to its various judicial needs as well as those of its neighboring municipalities of Bombon and Tinambac; and also cases from the towns of Garchitorena and Siruma.

This Bill is in consonance with the provision of the 1987 Constitution which states that "All persons shall have the right to speedy disposition of their cases before all judicial, quasi-judicial, or administrative bodies."

With the big bulk of criminal, civil and other cases under the current lone Regional Trial Court branch in Calabanga, delays in the disposition of such cases is inevitable, creating a serious backlog of cases hindering the expeditious delivery of judicial services. It is thus a must that an additional branch of the Regional Trial Court be created in the Municipality of Calabanga to service the municipalities of Calabanga, Tinambac, Garchitorena and Siruma, all of the Province of Camarines Sur.

Hence, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE

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AN ACT CREATING A REGIONAL TRIAL COURT BRANCH IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR TO BE STATIONED AT THE MUNICIPALITY OF CALABANGA, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14, PARAGRAPH (F) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLF. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. There is hereby created a branch of the Regional Trial Court in the Fifth Judicial Region to be stationed at the Municipality of Calabanga, Province of Camarines Sur.

The Supreme Court shall assign the branch number of the newly-created Regional Trial Court branch in the Fifth Judicial Region.

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 the Regional Trial Court branch to be

stationed at the Municipality of Calabanga, Province of Camarines Sur, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 3. Section 14(f) of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as “The Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980”, as amended, and all other laws, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.