



Introduced by Honorable Kimi S. Cojuangco

Explanatory Note

This bill seeks to create an 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. Despite the passage into law of HB No. 05659 which seeks to create another RTC seat in Urdaneta City, it is submitted that with the limited resources of the already existing RTC branches therein, combined with the amount of cases being filed, delays in the administration of justice will still occur.

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 6 to 9 seats. Taking this into account, this proposed measure becomes imperative.

Adding another branch will help in the unclogging, as well as decreasing the number of caseloads for the already existing RTC branches. An additional seat 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 another RTC branch as proposed in this measure will help in alleviating the situation in the City of Urdaneta and is therefore highly recommended.


HON. KIMI S. COJUANGCO

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

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 627

Introduced by Honorable Kimi S. Cojuangco

AN ACT

CREATING AN ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE FIRST JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED AT URDANETA CITY, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE 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 the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. An additional Regional Trial Court branch for Urdaneta City, Pangasinan, with seat thereat, is hereby created in the First Judicial Region.

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

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 (a) of Batas Pambansa Bilang 129, otherwise known as the "The Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980," as amended, as well as other provisions that may be inconsistent herewith, are hereby deemed repealed, modified, and/or further amended.

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

Approved,