

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **2094**



Introduced by HON. LINABELLE RUTH R. VILLARICA
4TH DISTRICT, BULACAN

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The State is mandated to facilitate the delivery of justice to the public to promote a peaceful and orderly society. In the resolution of legal issues between parties, the present system must either be rationalized or insulated from the predicaments arising out of the administration of justice. In a democratic republican state such as ours, a legal redress must be available to a party who has suffered an injury. The State must hasten to avoid the miscarriage of justice due to systemic or administrative difficulties.

As of 31 December 2012, however, the caseload of the Regional Trial Courts of Malolos City, in the Province of Bulacan was packed with 14,666 cases or 2,336 more than 12,330 cases in 31 December 2009.

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

During the 15th Congress, this bill was approved on third reading by the House Plenary on 28 January 2013 and was transmitted to the Senate on 4 February 2013. It was referred to the Senate Committee on Justice and Human Rights on 5 February 2013. Due to time constraints, however, no further action was taken on the bill. This bill is filed for the consideration of the 16th Congress.

Support for the approval of this bill is earnestly requested.

REP. LINABELLE RUTH R. VILLARICA

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AN ACT CREATING AN ADDITIONAL REGIONAL TRIAL COURT BRANCH IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN THE CITY OF MEYCAUAYAN, PROVINCE OF BULACAN, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14, PARAGRAPH (C) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 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. There is hereby created an additional Regional Trial Court branch in the Third Judicial Region to be stationed in the City of Meycauayan, Province of Bulacan.

The Supreme Court shall assign the branch number of the newly-created Regional Trial Court branch in the Third Judicial Region which shall have jurisdiction over cases coming from the Fourth District of Bulacan and such cities or municipalities of the said province as the Supreme Court may deem necessary.

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 in the City of Meycauayan, Province of Bulacan, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 3. Section 14 (c) 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.

Approved,