

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

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2490



Introduced by Rep. EVELIO R. LEONARDIA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Judiciary is the system of courts that interprets and applies the law in the name of the state. It provides a mechanism for the resolution of the disputes, adjudication of cases and the granting of reliefs as law and justice may require affording the people the peace and order they deserve.

As our nation progresses, and in its process of growth and development, various opportunities and challenges arise concomitant with the emergence of novel, unique and different ideas and the coming into view of diverse opinions as well. Consequently, the development of a nation is not without its flaws. Inasmuch as opposing ideas and opinions are respected and encouraged, adversarial occurrences are inevitable, hence, the creation of trial courts is mandated.

At the beginning of 2013, there were a total of 6,398 pending cases and in a span of 6 months 317 cases were disposed. On the other hand, 259 cases were also added within the same duration. As of June of the same year, there are a total of 7,491 pending cases in all 14 Regional Trial Courts in Bacolod City. This leaves a rough estimate of 14.6% accumulation rate as against the completion rate which is about 4.9%. Thus, the obtaining circumstances will be that more cases are stocked in file than cases dismissed, needing an increase in the number of trial courts. It is most favorable to the people of Bacolod City, in particular, and to the administration of justice, in general, that the increase in the number of subject courts will obviously declog the judicial dockets.

As such, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


REP. EVELIO R. LEONARDIA
Lone District, Bacolod City

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AN ACT

CREATING THREE (3) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT TO BE STATIONED AT THE CITY OF BACOLOD, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SEC. 14 PARAGRAPH (G) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980, AS AMENDED BY SEC. 7 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7154, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 14, paragraph (g) of Batas Pambansa Bilang 129,
2 otherwise known as the Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980, as amended by
3 Republic Act No. 7154 in particular Section 7 thereof, is hereby further amended to
4 read as follows:

5
6 **Section 7.** Section 14, paragraph (g) of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise
7 known as the Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1981, is hereby amended to read as
8 follows:

9
10 "(g) ~~【Sixty-Nine】~~ **SEVENTY-TWO** Regional Trial Judges shall be
11 commissioned for the Sixth Judicial Region. There shall be:

12 "x x x

13 "x x x

14 "x x x

15 "x x x

16

1 "[Twenty-five] **TWENTY-EIGHT** branches with seats thereat for the
2 Province of Negros Occidental and the Cities of Bacolod, Bago, Cadiz,
3 La Carlota, San Carlos and Silay, with seats at Silay City, Bacolod City,
4 Himamaylan, San Carlos City, Cadiz City, Kabankalan, Bago City, La
5 Carlota City, and Sipalay."

6
7 The Supreme Court shall assign the branch number of the newly-created
8 branches of the Regional Trial Court in the Sixth Judicial Region.

9
10 **SEC. 2.** The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in coordination with the
11 Secretary of the Department of Justice, shall immediately include in the Court's
12 program the operationalization of three (3) additional branches of Regional Trial
13 Court to be stationed at the City of Bacolod, the funding of which shall be included in
14 the annual General Appropriations Act. The funds necessary for the operation of the
15 Court(s) herein created shall be appropriated and released only upon the actual
16 organization of the Court(s) and the appointment of its personnel.

17
18 **SEC. 3.** All other laws, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with this
19 Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

20
21 **SEC. 4.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete
22 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

23
24 Approved,