



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

Sixteenth Congress
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 4612

Introduced by Honorable Joseph "Ace" H. Durano

EXPLANATORY NOTE

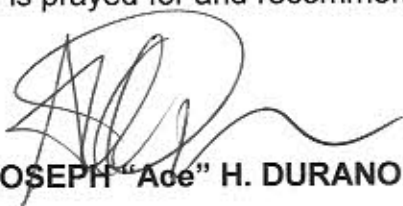
The City of Danao, in the Province of Cebu, is home to only one Municipal Trial Court (MTC) and one Regional Trial Court (RTC). These courts serve the City of Danao and the neighboring municipalities of San Francisco, Poro, Pilar and Tudela of the Camotes group of islands and the municipalities of Carmen, Catmon and Sogod in mainland Cebu.

The growth of the city and the towns which are being served by these courts have brought a lot of opportunities as well as difficulties. Their population has tremendously ballooned. Their social, political and economic activities have also greatly increased. With these developments, the administration of justice, necessary for the continued economic development and also necessary for implementation of peace and order, has been greatly hampered by the lack of courts that could handle efficiently the growing number of cases.

Records shows that as of December 31, 2013 there is a total of 1,678 pending cases in the only RTC Branch (Branch 25) in Danao City. Sad to say, some of these cases have been filed since 1995 and have not been resolved.

Moreover, there are also calls from concerned non-government organization for more RTC additional branch for Danao City and another branch to cater to the needs of the four(4) municipalities in the Camotes group of islands. Many of the pending cases in RTC Branch 25 are those which involved constituents in the Camotes group of islands.

For continued economic development and peace and order in the Fifth District of Cebu, efficient administration of justice is of paramount importance. Thus, immediate approval of this measure is prayed for and recommended.


JOSEPH "Ace" H. DURANO



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AN ACT
CREATING AN ADDITIONAL REGIONAL TRIAL COURT BRANCH IN DANAOS
CITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

Section 1. **Creation.** – In addition to the existing regional trial court branch in Danao City, there is hereby created two (2) additional Regional Trial Court branches to be located in Danao City and in Poro, Cebu.

Section 2. **Jurisdiction.** – the additional Regional Trial Court branch herein created and located in Danao City shall have jurisdiction over the City of Danao and the municipalities of Carmen, Catmon, Sogod and Borbon. The other additional Regional Trial Court branch located in Poro, Cebu shall have jurisdiction over the municipalities of San Francisco, Poro, Pilar and Tudela, all in the Province of Cebu.

Section 3. **Assignment of Cases.** – Upon the effectivity of this Act and subject to the guidelines to be issued by the Supreme Court of the Republic of the Philippines to implement the provisions of this Act, the existing Regional Trial Court Branch 25 in Danao City shall assign equally such number of pending and active cases as the Supreme Court may determine to the additional branches herein created.

Section 4. **Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – The Supreme Court of the Republic of the Philippines shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this Act.

Section 5. **Appropriations.** – The necessary amount for the creation of the court herein mandated shall be charged against the appropriations of the Supreme Court for the year immediately succeeding the passage of this Act. Thereafter, a sufficient sum for their maintenance shall be charged against the annual appropriations of the Supreme Court.

Section 6. **Effectivity.** – The Act shall take effect immediately upon its approval subject to publication requirements.

Approved.