

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**SIXTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 5166**



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**INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE JOSE "PINGPING" I. TEJADA**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to create one (1) additional branch of the Regional Trial Court in the Municipality of Mlang, Province of Cotabato.

"A pure, speedy, and effective administration of justice will be established, whereby the evils of delay, corruption, and exploitation will be effectively eradicated."<sup>1</sup>

An incessant increase in population coupled by political, social and economic interactions of the people begets a litigious society eventually leading towards highly clogged court dockets. The Province of Cotabato along with other areas in the country has seen a dramatic increase in the number of court litigations and disputes over the last decades. With this trend, it is expected that there will be an increase in the number of cases being adjudicated in the branches of court in the province in addition to the many pending/backlogged cases that has yet to be decided upon.

The actual deliverance of justice due to highly clogged court dockets is just unacceptable for the people of the Province of Cotabato. Therefore, there is an urgent need for the creation of one (1) additional branch of the Regional Trial Court in the Municipality of Mlang, Cotabato to improve the adjudication process and provide the people a speedy disposition of their cases.

Hence the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
**JOSE "PINGPING" I. TEJADA**  
3<sup>rd</sup> District, Province of Cotabato

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<sup>1</sup> The Administration of Justice in the Philippine Islands, 9 ILL. L. REV. 73, 75 (1914).

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**AN ACT**

**CREATING ONE (1) ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED AT THE MUNICIPALITY OF MLANG, PROVINCE OF COTABATO, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE 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:*

1 **Section 1.** One (1) additional Regional Trial Court branch for the Municipality of Mlang,  
2 Province of Cotabato with seats thereat, is hereby created in the Twelfth Judicial Region.

3  
4 **Section 2.** The Supreme Court shall assign the respective branch numbers of the newly  
5 created branch.

6  
7 **Section 3.** The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in coordination with the Secretary of  
8 the Department of Justice, shall immediately include in the Courts program the  
9 implementation of this Act. The funding thereof shall likewise be included in the annual  
10 General Appropriations Act.

11  
12 **Section 4.** Section 14(m) of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as "The Judiciary  
13 Reorganization Act of 1980", as amended, as well as other provisions that may be  
14 inconsistent herewith, are hereby deemed repealed, modified and/or further amended.

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

18  
19 Approved.