

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

**Seventeenth Congress**  
Second Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 6751**



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**INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ISAGANI S. AMATONG**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

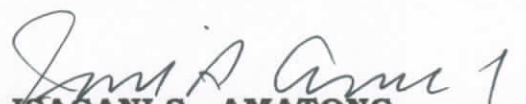
Section 16, Article III of the 1987 Constitution provides that "All persons shall have the right to a speedy disposition of their cases before all judicial, quasi-judicial, or administrative bodies."

Pursuant to this constitutional mandate, it is imperative for the State to increase the number of courts to meet the increasing number of cases being filed and to improve the administration of justice by facilitating the early resolution of judicial controversies.

To date, there exists two (2) Regional Trial Court branches in the third district of Zamboanga del Norte, with a seat in the Municipalities of Liloy and Siocon. However, the lone court in Liloy has a total caseload of 842 as of December 2016, which exceeds the manageable level of 300 cases as recommended by the Supreme Court's Office of the Court Administrator. In that year alone, only 68 out of the accumulated 910 pending and newly filed cases had been decided or resolved in RTC Liloy, which in effect results to a 7.47% disposition of cases on a yearly average.

The high caseload invariably results in clogged court docket, slow dispensation of justice, and erosion of the people's trust in our justice system. This measure, duly supported by the Integrated Bar of the Philippines Zamboanga del Norte Chapter, seeks to address these problems.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
**ISAGANI S. AMATONG**

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**AN ACT CREATING AN ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE 3<sup>RD</sup> DISTRICT OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE, TO BE STATIONED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LILOY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980" AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.**

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

**Sec. 1.** One (1) Regional Trial Court branch for Municipality of Liloy, with seat thereat, is hereby created in the Ninth Judicial Region.

**Sec. 2.** The Supreme Court shall assign the branch number for the newly created branch.

**Sec. 3.** The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in coordination with the Secretary of Justice, shall immediately include in the Court's program the implementation of this Act. The amount necessary for the creation and the continuous funding therefore shall likewise be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. The funds necessary shall be appropriated and released only upon the actual organization of the court and appointment of its personnel.

**Sec. 4.** Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as "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.

**Sec. 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,