

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
17th CONGRESS
Second Regular Session
House Bill No. **7004**



Introduced by *Representative Wes Gatchalian*

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The speedy, effective, and efficient disposition of cases in the courts is crucial in encouraging confidence and faith in our judicial system. This is important for it is this faith in the judiciary which prevents our citizens in taking justice into their own hands as well as creating a certain level of deterrence for those who would attempt to break the law. It is for this reason that this current measure is proposed to increase the number of Metropolitan Trial Courts (MeTC) by adding five (5) additional branches in Valenzuela City to improve its current level of branch to population ratio.

At present there are only five (5) MeTC branches in Valenzuela City. For the year 2016-2017 alone, these branches received more than three thousand (3000) new cases in addition to those cases already pending. The sheer amount and volume of cases inevitably leads to the clogging of the dockets of the courts despite the most diligent efforts of our honorable judges. Looking at the court to population ratio, what is revealed is that Valenzuela City has one of the lowest in the NCR at 0.85 per 100, 000 population, as compared with other cities like Pasig (2.25), Makati (2.23), Mandaluyong (3.37), Manila (1.69), and Quezon City (1.19).

HON. WES GATCHALIAN
Representative
1st District, Valenzuela City

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House Bill No. **7004**

Introduced by *Representative* **Wes Gatchalian**

**AN ACT CREATING
TWO (2) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE METROPOLITAN TRIAL COURT
TO BE STATIONED AT THE CITY OF VALENZUELA, METRO MANILA.,
AND AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTION 27 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. Five (5) additional Metropolitan Trial Court branches are hereby created in the National Capital Judicial Region with seats at the City of Valenzuela, Metro Manila.

The Supreme Court shall assign the branch number of the newly-created branches of the Metropolitan Trial Court in the National Capital Judicial Region.

Section 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 five (5) additional branches of the Metropolitan Trial Court to be stationed at the City of Valenzuela, Metro Manila, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. The funds necessary for the operation of the Court(s) herein created shall be appropriated and released only upon the actual organization of the Court(s) and the appointment of its personnel.

Section 3. Section 27 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.

Section 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,