



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

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**  
**Second Regular Session**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 7205**

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Introduced by Anak Mindanao (AMIN) Representatives: HON. AMIHILDA J. SANGCOPAN and  
HON. MAKMOD D. MENDING JR.

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

In June 15, 1954, Republic Act No. 1080, "*An Act declaring the Bar and Board Examinations as Civil Service Examinations*", was enacted. It confer passers of the Bar examination the Civil Service eligibility.

In February 4, 1977, Presidential Decree No. 1083 or the "*Code of Muslim Personal Laws*" was enacted. It implements the constitutional mandate toward the integration and mainstreaming of cultural Muslim Filipino communities. As such, PD 1083 created as part of the Philippine judicial system the Shari'a Courts:

*Article 137. Creation. There are hereby created as part of the judicial system, courts of limited jurisdiction, to be known respectively as Shari'a District Courts and Shari'a Circuit Courts, which shall exercise powers and functions in accordance with this Title.*

*Shari'a courts and the personnel thereof shall be subject to the administrative supervision of the Supreme Court.*

Like the regular civil courts, the Sharia' courts and the personnel thereof shall be subject to the administrative supervision of the Supreme Court. Applicants to the Sharia' Bar Examinations is required to have completed from a Philippine Sharia' Institute or completed the two-year study on Islamic Jurisprudence offered by Law schools in some parts of the country. On the other hand, applicants to the civil service eligibility are required at least Bachelor's Degree for professional level or at least finished two (2) years in college for the sub-professional level or eligibility.

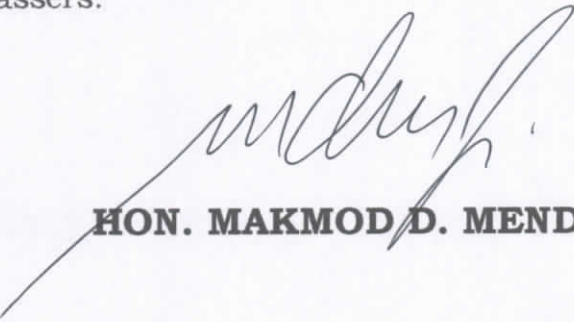
In the Philippines, the increasing number of Muslim Filipinos is a challenge to the efficient implementation of the judicial system. In a recent study, it says the lack of full-time Shari'a District Judges may affect the level of performance of the SDCs. All five Shari'a District Judge positions of the fully organized SDCs are vacant. Two RTC Judges have been designated as acting Shari'a District Judges on concurrent capacity. Specifically, Judge Bensaudi Arabani Sr. who is the appointed RTC judge of Parang (Sulu) is the designated acting judge of the SDCs in Jolo (Sulu), Bongao (Tawi-Tawi), Zamboanga City, and Cotabato City, while Judge Rasat Balindong who is the appointed RTC judge of Midsayap (Cotabato) is concurrently the judge of the SDC in Marawi City.

Majority, if not most of the Shari'a counselors, are from Mindanao and as a Representatives from Mindanao, we would like to put emphasis in affirming the fitting recognition for our Shari'a counselors.

With this, we sought for the passage of the bill conferring the appropriate civil service eligibility to the Sharia' Bar passers.



**HON. AMIHILDA J. SANGCOPAN**



**HON. MAKMOD D. MENDING JR.**



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**AN ACT**  
**DECLARING THE SPECIAL SHARI'A BAR EXAMINATION AS CIVIL**  
**SERVICE EXAMINATION AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE R.A. 1080**  
**ENTITLED "AN ACT DECLARING THE BAR AND BOARD**  
**EXAMINATIONS AS CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS"**

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

**SECTION 1.** The bar examinations including the Special Shari'a Bar Examination and the examination given by the various boards of examiners of the Government are declared as civil service examinations, and shall for purposes of appointment to positions in the classified service of the duties of which involve knowledge of the respective professions except positions requiring highly specialized knowledge not covered by the ordinary board examinations, be considered as equivalent to the first grade regular examinations given by the Bureau of Civil Service if the profession requires at least four (4) years of study in college and the person has practiced his professions for at least two years, and as equivalent to the second grade examination if the profession requires less than four years of college study.

**SECTION 2.** The Commissioner of Civil Service shall be furnished by the Clerk of the Supreme Court and the Secretary of the Board of Examiners a list of all the successful candidates in the bar and board examinations, including the Special Shari'a Bar Examination, with their general averages and preference shall be given those obtaining the highest

ratings in making appointments, Provided, That for those who have already passed the corresponding bar and board examinations, including the Special Shari'a Examination, the eligibility shall be deemed to commence from the approval of the Act.

**SECTION 3.** The commissioner of Civil Service shall promulgate the rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

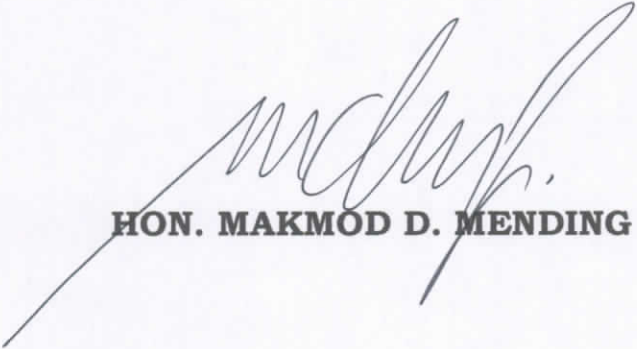
**SECTION 4.** The benefits granted under this Act shall not prescribe the provisions of civil service law or regulations notwithstanding.

**SECTION 5.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in any two newspapers of general circulation.

**Approved,**



**HON. AMIHILDA J. SANGCOPAN**



**HON. MAKMOD D. MENDING JR.**