

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

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. **7325**



---

Introduced by HON. DANILO E. SUAREZ

---

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In 2004, by virtue of Republic Act No. 9247, the Regional Trial Court (RTC) in Catanauan, Quezon Province was created. Since its operation, cases filed in the said Court have been handled by its sole Judge. In 2017, there were 312 cases, or an average of 26 cases per month, filed in the Catanauan Judicial District. Meanwhile, almost the same number of cases was handled by the Judicial District of Gumaca, Quezon which has four (4) RTC branches. Given the high volume of cases assigned, the RTC Catanauan is likely to suffer from clogged dockets. It is feared that delay in the administration of justice is possible and inevitable with this congestion.

In accordance with the constitutional mandate of ensuring the right to speedy disposition of cases, this bill therefore seeks the creation of three (3) additional Regional Trial Court branches to be stationed in the Municipality of Catanauan, Province of Quezon. With the passage of this bill, it is hoped that the creation of the additional RTC branches will help relieve the Court of case congestion.

In view of the foregoing and in the interest of expeditious and competent delivery of justice, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Danilo E. Suarez'.

**DANILO E. SUAREZ**

Representative

3rd District, Quezon Province

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

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. **7325**

---

Introduced by HON. DANILO E. SUAREZ

---

1       AN ACT CREATING THREE (3) ADDITIONAL REGIONAL TRIAL COURT  
2       BRANCHES IN THE FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED AT THE  
3       MUNICIPALITY OF CALAUAG, PROVINCE OF QUEZON, FURTHER  
4       AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14 (E) OF THE BATAS PAMBANSA  
5       BILANG 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION  
6       ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

7       **SECTION 1.** Three (3) additional Regional Trial Court branches are hereby  
8       created in the Fourth Judicial Region to be stationed at the Municipality of  
9       Catanauan, Quezon province.

10       The Supreme Court shall assign the branch number of the newly-created  
11       branch of the Regional Trial Court in the Fourth Judicial Region.

12       **SEC. 2.** The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in coordination with the  
13       Secretary of the Department of Justice, shall immediately include in the Court's  
14       program the operationalization of the three (3) additional branches of the Regional  
15       Trial Court in the Municipality of Calauag, Province of Quezon. The funding of  
16       which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. The funds  
17       necessary for the operation of the Court herein created shall be appropriated and  
18       released only upon the actual organization of the Court and the appointment of its  
19       personnel.

20       **SEC. 3.** Section 14 (e) of Batas Pambansa Bilang 129, otherwise known as "The  
21       Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980", as amended, and all other laws, rules, and

1 regulations which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed, or  
2 modified accordingly.

3       **SEC. 4.** Effectivity – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
4 publication in the Official Gazette or in any two (2) newspapers of general  
5 circulation in the Philippines, whichever comes earlier.

Approved.