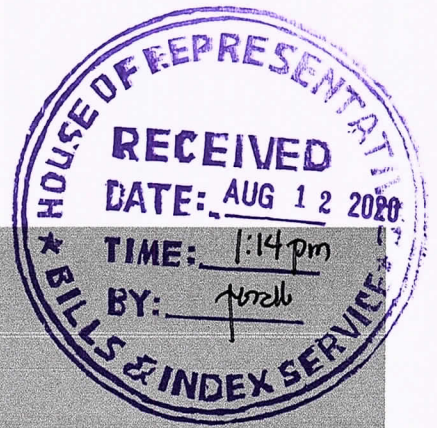




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Eighteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. **7363**

Introduced by Representative Sandra Y. Eriguel

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to create an additional branch of the Regional Trial Court in the Province of La Union to be stationed in the Municipality of Agoo.

The clogging of cases is a continuing problem courts face in the Philippines, resulting in the delay of justice for the Filipino people. For the past few years it has been the plight of the administration to ease the suffering of our fellowmen by setting in motion the means to create a more accessible and speedy justice system. The Regional Trial Court of Agoo, La Union is of no exception.

Presently, there are only two (2) branches catering to the Municipalities of Agoo, Aringay, Pugo, Rosario, Sto. Tomas, and Tubao, home to over 250,000 individuals. From 2014 to 2019 a total of 3,241 cases were filed in the Regional Trial Court of Agoo, averaging 540 cases per year, 45 cases per month, and 11 cases a week, an unattainable feat for any member of the judiciary to settle promptly.

The passage of this bill is sought in order to uphold the constitutional right of every Filipino to a speedy disposition of cases.

Sandra Y. Eriguel
HON. SANDRA Y. ERIGUEL, M.D.

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HOUSE BILL No. 7363

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AN ACT
CREATING ONE (1) ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE 1ST JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF AGOO, PROVINCE OF LA UNION, 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:

SECTION 1. One (1) additional branch of the Regional Trial Court is hereby created in the First Judicial Region, to be stationed in the Municipality of Agoo, Province of La Union.

The Supreme Court shall assign the respective branch number for the newly-created branch of the Regional Trial Court.

SEC. 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 of the one (1) additional branch of the Regional Trial Court in the Province of La Union. The funds necessary for the operation of the court herein created shall be appropriated and released only upon the actual organization of the court and the appointment of its personnel.

SEC. 3. Sections 14 (a) 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.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.