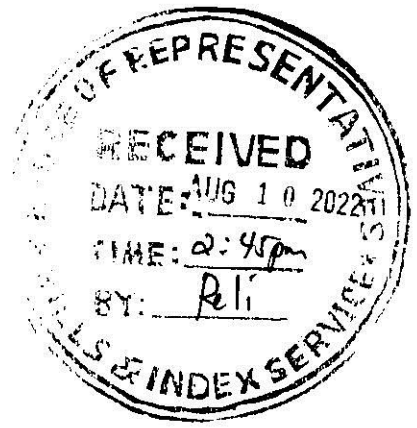




Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3470



Introduced by **Representative Francisco Jose F. Matugas II**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article III, Section 16 of the 1987 Constitution emphasizes the right of all individuals to a speedy disposition of their cases before all judicial, quasi-judicial, or administrative bodies. In accordance with this mandate, the State must ensure that courts are accessible to the people.

The Municipality of Socorro is the lone municipality of Bucas Grande Island. It is about five (5) nautical miles from the mainland of Siargao. At the moment, litigants from the municipality have to travel all the way to the Municipality of Dapa to attend to their cases. Trips to Dapa are not only costly for these litigants, but travel is also irregular as it depends on weather conditions.

This bill therefore seeks to establish a municipal trial court in the Municipality of Socorro to make the courts accessible to its residents. The immediate passage of this bill is, therefore, earnestly sought.


FRANCISCO JOSE F. MATUGAS II
Surigao del Norte, First District
(*Siargao Island*)



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House of Representatives
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NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3470

Introduced by **Representative Francisco Jose F. Matugas II**

AN ACT CREATING ONE (1) ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT IN THE TENTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOCORRO, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 30 OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1989", AS AMENDED

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

1 SECTION 1. One (1) additional branch of the Municipal Trial Court
2 in the Tenth Judicial Region is hereby created and stationed in the
3 Municipality of Socorro, Province of Surigao del Norte.

4 The Supreme Court shall assign the branch number for the newly
5 created branch of the Municipal Trial Court.

6 SEC. 2. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in coordination with
7 the Secretary of the Department of Justice, shall immediately include in the
8 Court's program the operationalization of the additional branch of the
9 Municipal Trial Court in the Municipality of Socorro, Province of Surigao
10 del Norte. The funds necessary for the operation of the court herein created

1 shall be appropriated and released only upon actual organization of the
2 court and the appointment of its personnel.

3 SEC. 3. Section 30 of the Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known
4 as "The Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980", as amended, and all other
5 laws, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby
6 amended, repealed, or modified accordingly.

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

9 *Approved,*