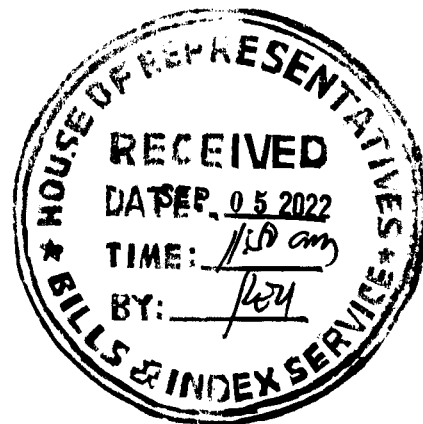


Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4409



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Introduced by **REP. FERJENEL G. BIRON, M.D.**

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**AN ACT CREATING ONE (1) ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE SIXTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF DUMANGAS, PROVINCE OF ILOILO, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14 (G) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill pursues the creation of one (1) additional Regional Trial Court branch for the Province of Iloilo with seat at the Municipality of Dumangas.

The present Regional Trial Court (RTC) Branch 68 in the Municipality of Dumangas is clogged by a huge volume of civil, criminal, and other cases filed on an average range of thirty to forty (30 – 40) every month, thus creating unfavorable backlogs. The territorial jurisdiction of the present RTC Branch 68, which covers nine (9) big municipalities and one (1) component city could hardly be attended by a single presiding judge, such that the administration of justice could barely be served efficiently and the disposition of cases cannot be done expeditiously. Currently, there are over three thousand cases pending with Branch 68.

Thus, consistent with the constitutional mandate that "*All persons shall have the right to a speedy disposition of their cases before all judicial, quasi-judicial, or administrative bodies*", it is imperative that an additional branch of the Regional Trial Court be created in the Municipality of Dumangas, Province of Iloilo.

The approval of this bill is earnestly requested.

  
**REP. FERJENEL G. BIRON, M.D.**  
4<sup>th</sup> District, Iloilo

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

**SECTION 1.** One (1) additional branch of the Regional Trial Court in the Sixth Judicial Region is hereby created and stationed in the City of Passi, Province of Iloilo.

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, will include in the Court's program the operationalization of the additional branch of the Regional Trial Court in the Municipality of Dumangas, Province of Iloilo. 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.** Section 14 (g) 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,