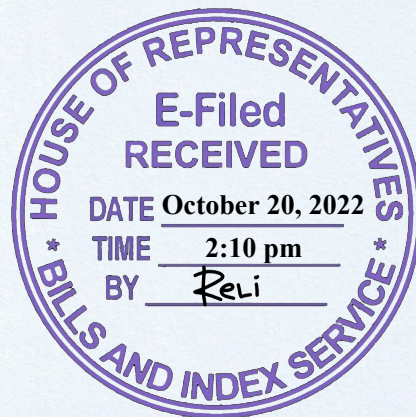


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5649



Introduced by Representative Rex Gatchalian

AN ACT CREATING TWO (2) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF FAMILY COURTS IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION, TO BE STATIONED IN THE CITY OF VALENZUELA, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

There are only family courts in Valenzuela. From the period of 11 October 2019 to 7 July 2022, the total number of cases filed in the family courts is 3,097 with an average of 1,032 cases per court. Undoubtedly, the family courts in Valenzuela are inundated with cases, leaving it harder for the judges to protect the welfare of children and the family as an inviolable social institution as well.

This bill seeks to address this by creating two (2) new additional Family Courts in Valenzuela City as per Republic Act No. 8369 or the Family Courts Act of 1997. The number of courts has been determined after consultation with Valenzuela City stakeholders, especially those involved in advocating for women, children, and family, mitigating juvenile delinquency, among other family-related issues.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


HON. REX GATCHALIAN
Representative
1st District, Valenzuela City

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THE NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION, TO BE STATIONED IN THE CITY
OF VALENZUELA, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1 **SECTION 1.** *Creation of Two (2) Family Courts.* - Two (2) additional branches
2 of Family Courts are hereby created in the National Capital Judicial Region, to be
3 stationed in the City of Valenzuela, in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act
4 No. 8369, otherwise known as the "Family Courts Act of 1997".

5 The Supreme Court shall assign the respective branch number for the newly-
6 created Family Court branches.
7

8 **SEC. 2.** *Operationalization and Appropriation of the Newly Created Courts.* - The
9 Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in coordination with the Secretary of the
10 Department of Justice, shall immediately include in the Court's program the
11 operationalization of the two (2) new additional branches of Family Courts in the City
12 of Valenzuela. The funds necessary for the operation of the courts herein created
13 shall be appropriated and released only upon the actual organization of the court and
14 the appointment of its personnel.
15

16 **SEC. 3.** *Repealing Clause.* - All other laws, rules and regulations which are
17 inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed, or modified accordingly.
18

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

Approved,