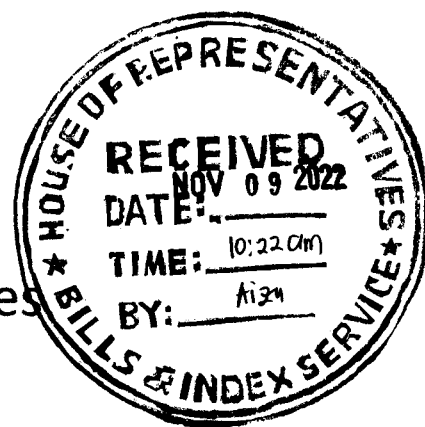




Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **5984**



Introduced by Representative Christian S. Unabia

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to create additional two branches of the Regional Trial Court (RTC) in the Tenth Judicial Region, to be stationed in the City of Gingoog, Province of Misamis Oriental.

Section 11 Article III, of the 1987 Constitution provides that, "*Free access to the courts and quasi-judicial bodies and adequate legal assistance shall not be denied to any person by reason of poverty*", and Section 12 of the same article provides that, "*All persons shall have the right to a speedy disposition of their cases before all judicial, quasi-judicial, or administrative bodies.*" Free access to the courts and the speedy administration of justice are enshrined in the Constitution.

Currently, there are three branches of RTC in the Tenth Judicial Region that are stationed in the City of Gingoog, Misamis Oriental. Ideally, each branch should have a caseload of 147, but the total caseload as of July 22, 2022 is 586, which is more than triple the ideal number for an efficient administration of justice.

The City of Gingoog is one of the major cities of the Province of Misamis Oriental. It has a population of 136,698. Considering the growing population of the city, there is an expected increase in the filing of cases, that will add to the current caseload of the courts. Thus, there is a need for additional RTC

branches to meet the growing number of cases and ensure that justice will be served promptly and efficiently.

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


CHRISTIAN S. UNABIA



Republic of the Philippines
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Nineteenth Congress
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HOUSE BILL NO. **5984**

Introduced by Representative Christian S. Unabia

AN ACT

CREATING TWO (2) BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE TENTH JUDICIAL REGION, TO BE STATIONED IN THE CITY OF GINGOOG, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE THE BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS “THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980,” AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Two (2) additional branches of the Regional Trial Court are hereby created in the Tenth Judicial Region, to be stationed at the City of Gingoog, Province of Misamis Oriental.

The Supreme Court shall assign the respective branch numbers of the newly created branches of the Regional Trial Court in the Tenth Judicial Region.

1 SEC. 2. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in coordination with the
2 Secretary of Justice, shall immediately include in the Court's program the
3 operationalization of the two (2) additional branches of the Regional Trial
4 Court, to be stationed in the City of Gingoog. The funds necessary for the
5 implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General
6 Appropriations Act. The funds shall be appropriated and released only upon the
7 actual organization of the court and the appointment of their respective
8 personnel.

9 SEC. 3. Section 14 (k) of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as
10 *"The Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980,"* as amended, and all other laws,
11 rules, and regulations which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended,
12 repealed, or modified accordingly.

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

15 Approved,