



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



Nineteenth Congress  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **7232**

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**Introduced by Representative Arnan C. Panaligan**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to create two (2) additional branches of the Regional Trial Court in the Fourth Judicial Region to be stationed at the City of Calapan, Province of Oriental Mindoro. For this purpose, it seeks to further amend Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as "the Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980".

Article III, Sections 11 and 16 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 "all persons shall have the right to speedy disposition of their cases before all judicial, quasi-judicial or administrative bodies".

As the population increases within the City of Calapan and other municipalities under the 1<sup>st</sup> Judicial District of Oriental Mindoro, an increase in the volume of cases filed in RTC Branch 39, Branch 40 and FC 11 was also observed. This resulted to the clogging of court dockets and the arbitrary and unreasonable delay in the resolution of the cases to the prejudice of the litigants further defeating the constitutional rights of the litigants to speedy disposition of their cases.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is urgently requested.

**ARNAN C. PANALIGAN**



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1 **AN ACT CREATING TWO (2) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL**  
2 **COURT IN THE PROVINCE OF ORIENTAL MINDORO TO BE STATIONED IN THE**  
3 **CITY OF CALAPAN AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR**  
4 **THE PURPOSE SECTION 14 (D) BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN**  
5 **AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED**  
6

7 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress*  
8 *assembled:*  
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11 SECTION 1. Two (2) additional Regional Trial Court branches in the Fourth Judicial  
12 Region are hereby created and stationed in the City of Calapan, Province of Oriental Mindoro.  
13

14 The Supreme Court shall assign the branch numbers of the newly-created Regional Trial  
15 Court branches.  
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17 SECTION. 2. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in coordination with the Secretary  
18 of the Department of Justice, shall immediately include in the Courts' program the  
19 operationalization of additional branches of the Regional Trial Court branches in the City of  
20 Calapan, Province of Oriental Mindoro.  
21

22 SECTION. 3. The funds necessary for the implementation of this Act, including  
23 appropriations for personnel services such as salaries, benefits and emoluments for judges and  
24 court personnel, court operations under maintenance and other operating expenses (MOOE), and  
25 provisions for Halls of Justice or courtrooms to accommodate judges and court staff, shall be  
26 included in the annual General Appropriations Act.  
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28 SECTION. 5. Section 14(d) of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as "The  
29 Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980, as amended, and all other laws, rules and regulations which  
30 are inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.  
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32 SECTION. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in  
33 the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.  
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36 Approved,