

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7513



Introduced by Hon. Mark O. Go

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, or the Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980, was enacted to promote the swift and efficient administration of justice. However, there are cities and provinces in the country that are far from the location of the existing Courts of Appeals, which causes delays and inconvenience to the litigants and lawyers.

This bill proposes the creation of a Court of Appeals in the City of Baguio to address this concern. This division of the Court of Appeals will have jurisdiction over cases originating from the First (1st) and Second (2nd) Judicial Regions.

The establishment of a Court of Appeals in the City of Baguio will provide greater access to justice. It will also help ease the caseload of the existing Courts of Appeals and promote the speedy resolution of cases.

In light of the foregoing, approval of this proposed measure is earnestly sought.


MARK O. GO

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AN ACT
CREATING AN ADDITIONAL DIVISION IN THE COURT OF APPEALS TO BE
STATIONED IN THE CITY OF BAGUIO, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE BATAS
PAMBANSA BILANG 129, AS AMENDED OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980, APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Creation of a Court of Appeals in the City of Baguio. – A division of Court of Appeals is hereby created in the City of Baguio, to be known as the Court of Appeals in Baguio, with jurisdiction over cases originating from the First (1st) and Second (2nd) Judicial Regions.

SEC. 2. Composition. – The Court of Appeals in Baguio shall be composed of three (3) members, who shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines upon the recommendation of the Judicial and Bar Council.

SEC. 3. Qualifications. – The Justices of the Court of Appeals in Baguio shall be natural-born citizens of the Philippines and shall possess the same qualifications as those required of the Justices of the Court of Appeals under existing laws.

SEC. 4. Salaries and Allowances. – The Presiding Justice and Associate Justices of the Court of Appeals in Baguio shall receive the same salaries, allowances, and other emoluments as those of the Justices of the Court of Appeals.

SEC. 5. Jurisdiction. – The Baguio Court of Appeals shall have appellate jurisdiction over all cases and appeals from the First (1st) and Second (2nd) Judicial Regions.

SEC. 6. Venue of Sessions. – The Court of Appeals in Baguio shall hold its sessions in the City of Baguio, except in cases of force majeure or other emergency situations, where it may hold sessions in any other place within its jurisdiction.

SEC. 7. Appropriations. -- The funds necessary for the operation of the Baguio Court of Appeals shall be included in the General Appropriations Act for the year following the approval of this Act.

SEC. 8. Transitory Provision. – The Justices of the Court of Appeals in Baguio shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines within ninety (90) days from the approval of this Act. All pending cases on appeal originating from the 1st or 2nd Judicial Regions , except those which have been submitted for resolution, shall be referred to the Court of Appeals in Baguio.

SEC. 9. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules, and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 10. Effectivity. –This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,