

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

8913
House Bill No. _____



Introduced by **Representative Florida P. Robes**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 16, Article III of the 1987 Constitution provides that "all persons shall have the right to a speedy disposition of their cases before all judicial, quasi-judicial, or administrative bodies". This is consistent with the legal maxim "justice delayed is justice denied."

In the City of San Jose Del Monte in the province of Bulacan, this legal maxim has become a norm. However, the speedy disposition of cases remains an elusive reality.

The City has a population of more than one (1) million which has only two (2) Regional Trial Courts and three Metropolitan Circuit Trial Courts with a caseload of more than a thousand cases for each court. This is far from the ideal caseload of 300 to 450 cases per court.

Needless to say, the wheels of justice grind ever so slowly in the City of San Jose Del Monte, Bulacan because the courts are clogged with cases that even the most professional, brilliant, and diligent legal luminaries cannot possibly surmount.

The establishment of additional courts, including the special courts for particular cases, will therefore address the slow resolution of cases and will make not only justice more responsive to the needs of the people but easily accessible.

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


FLORIDA P. ROBES

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8913

Introduced by Hon. Representatives Florida “Rida” P. Robes of the
Lone District of the City of San Jose del Monte, Bulacan

AN ACT
CREATING THREE (3) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT (RTC),
NAMELY: ONE (1) SPECIAL COURT FOR DRUG CASES, AND TWO (2) REGULAR COURTS
TO BE STATIONED IN THE CITY OF SAN JOSE DEL MONTE, PROVINCE OF BULACAN, IN
THE THIRD JUDICIAL REGION, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14 (C)
OF 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 House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

Section 1. Three (3) additional branches of the Regional Trial Court, namely one (1) Special Court for Drug Cases, and two (2) Regular Courts, to be stationed in the City of San Jose del Monte, Province of Bulacan, are hereby created in the Third Judicial Region.

Section 2. The Supreme Court shall assign the branch number of the newly created Regional Trial Court branches in the Third Judicial Region.

Section 3. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in coordination with the Secretary of the Department of Justice, shall immediately include in the Court’s program the operationalization of the Regional Trial Court branches to be stationed in the City of San Jose del Monte, Province of Bulacan.

Section 4. The funding of the three (3) Regional Trial Courts shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act. The funds necessary for the operation of the courts herein created shall be appropriated and released upon the approval of this Bill subject to the organizational and staffing personnel to be appointed by the Supreme Court.

Section 4. Section 14(c) of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as “*The Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980*”, as amended, and all other laws, executive orders, and rules and regulations which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 5. This Act shall take effect fifteenth (15) days after its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.