

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2078



Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE JEYZEL VICTORIA C. YU
2nd District, Zamboanga del Sur

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Bill, previously approved by the House of Representatives in the 19th Congress, seeks to establish an additional Regional Trial Court branch in the Ninth Judicial Region, to be stationed in the Municipality of San Miguel, Province of Zamboanga del Sur.

Section 16, Article III of the 1987 Constitution, guarantees every Filipino's right to a speedy disposition of cases before all judicial, quasi-judicial, and administrative bodies.

Currently, Regional Trial Court Branch 29 (RTC 29) stationed in San Miguel, Province of Zamboanga del Sur, is a single sala court exercising its jurisdiction over eight of the fifteen municipalities in the Second District of Zamboanga del Sur—namely: Dimataling, Dinas, Lapuyan, Margosatubig, Pitogo, San Miguel, Tabina, and Vincenzo Sagun.

The lack of available courts and the heavy workload of cases have led to a backlog in our courts, hindering prompt case resolution and compromising litigants' constitutional right to timely justice.

Thus, establishing an additional Regional Trial Court branch will help to de-clog the dockets of existing courts and to enhance access to justice. Hence, the immediate approval of this Bill is earnestly sought.


JEYZEL VICTORIA C. YU

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HOUSE BILL NO. 2078

Introduced by **REPRESENTATIVE JEYZEL VICTORIA C. YU**
2nd District, Zamboanga del Sur

AN ACT

CREATING ONE (1) ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE NINTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN MIGUEL, PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14 (J) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS ‘THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980’, AS AMENDED

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

SECTION 1. One (1) additional branch of the Regional Trial Court in the Ninth Judicial Region is hereby created and stationed in the Municipality of San Miguel, Province of Zamboanga del Sur.

The Supreme Court shall assign the branch number for the newly created branch of the Regional Trial Court.

SEC. 2. 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 additional branch of the Regional Trial Court in the Municipality of San Miguel, Province of Zamboanga del Sur.

SEC. 3. The funds necessary for the implementation of this Act, including appropriations for personnel services such as salaries, benefits and emoluments for judges and court personnel, court operations under maintenance and other operating expenses (MOOE), and provisions for Halls of Justice or courtrooms to accommodate judges and court staff, shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

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

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,