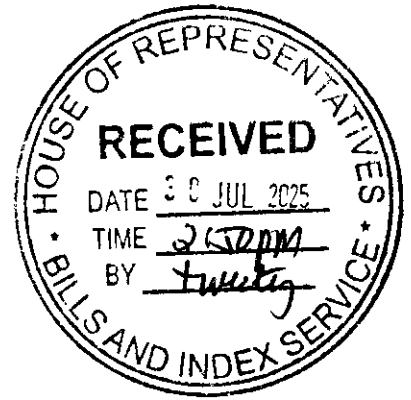




Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila



Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2659

Introduced by Representative Antonio “Ony” A. Ferrer

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to create one (1) additional branch of Municipal Trial Court in Cities (MTCC) in the Fourth Judicial Region to be stationed in the City of General Trias, Province of Cavite, and appropriating funds therefor, amending for the purpose Section 29 of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as *The Judiciary Reorganization Act Of 1980*, as amended

As provided in Republic Act No. 10675, also known as the “*Charter of the City of General Trias*” the city has only one MTCC, classified as a single sala court. The current single sala court is increasingly overburdened due to population growth, urban development, and rising number of cases.

General Trias has transitioned from a municipality to a component city, with growing commercial and residential zones, which is often correlated with increasing civil, criminal, and administrative cases. Based on 2020 Census, Imus City with a population of 496,794 has two (2) MTCCs, while Bacoor City with a population of 664,625 has three (3) MTCCs. Given General Trias City’s rapid urbanization and population growth, with over 450,000 residents, a second sala court is warranted. A second MTCC will enhance judicial efficiency and improve access to justice in this fast-growing component city.

The establishment of another MTCC branch is not merely a response to growth, it is a constitutional imperative to ensure speedy, fair, and efficient justice. General Trias, a city rising in economic and demographic prominence, deserves a judiciary that matches its momentum. Moreover, under the Judiciary

Reorganization Act, cities with large populations and increasing legal disputes may qualify for additional salas.

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



ANTONIO "ONY" A. FERRER



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
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Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2659

Introduced by Representative Antonio “Ony” A. Ferrer

AN ACT

CREATING ONE (1) ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT IN CITIES IN THE FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN THE CITY OF GENERAL TRIAS, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 29 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. An additional one (1) branch of the Municipal Trial Court in Cities (MTCC) in the Fourth Judicial Region is hereby created and stationed in the City of General Trias, Province of Cavite.

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

SEC. 2. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in coordination with the Secretary of Justice, shall immediately include in the Court's program the operationalization of the additional branch of the MTCC in the City of General Trias, Province of Cavite.

The Supreme Court shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

1 **SEC. 3.** The funds necessary for the implementation of this Act, including
2 appropriations for personnel services such as salaries, benefits and emoluments
3 for the judge and court personnel, court operations under maintenance and other
4 operating expenses (MOOE), and provision courtroom to accommodate the judge
5 and court staff, as well as funds necessary for the implementation of
6 automatically-created prosecutor positions pursuant to Section 13 of Republic
7 Act No. 10071, or the "*Prosecution Service Act of 2010*", and appointment of
8 public attorney pursuant to Section 7 of Republic Act No. 9406, , resulting from
9 the creation of this court, including appropriations for personnel services such as
10 salaries, benefits, and emoluments for the prosecutor and public attorney, shall be
11 included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

12 The funds necessary for the operation of the courts herein created shall be
13 appropriated and released only upon the actual organization of the court and the
14 appointment of its personnel.

15 **SEC. 4.** Section 29 of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as "*The*
16 *Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980*", as amended, and all other laws, rules and
17 regulations which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed or
18 modified accordingly.

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

22 Approved,