

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3514



Introduced by Representative Edsel A. Galeos

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This measure aims to create an additional branch of the Regional Trial Court in the Seventh Judicial Region to be stationed in the Municipality of Dalaguete, Province of Cebu. For this purpose, it seeks to further amend Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as “The Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980.”

It is stated by the Bill of Rights under the 1987 Constitution that, “all persons shall have the right to a speedy disposition of their cases before all judicial, quasi-judicial, or administrative bodies.” It is the government’s duty to ensure that justice shall not be delayed, otherwise, it shall be considered as denied.

Our courts have been long plagued by congestion. There are not enough courts, judges, and employees to accommodate the cases that are being filed before the existing courts. The Supreme Court is currently implementing various reforms to decongest the court dockets. The bill aims to supplement the reforms of the Supreme Court and provide a solution to this long-standing problem by providing for an additional branch of the Regional Trial Court to be located in the Municipality of Dalaguete, Province of Cebu.

In addition to ensuring expeditious disposition of cases, an additional branch in a different municipality will also ensure accessibility to the courts. Currently, in the Second District of Cebu, the nearest court is in the Municipality of Argao. An additional branch in a different municipality will make it easier for our constituents to file cases as needed.

For the foregoing reasons, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


EDSEL A. GALEOS

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**AN ACT CREATING AN ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL
TRIAL COURT IN THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED
AT THE MUNICIPALITY OF DALAGUETE, PROVINCE OF CEBU,
FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14(H) 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 the House of Representatives of the Philippines
in Congress assembled:*

1 **SECTION 1.** There is hereby created an additional branch of the Regional Trial
2 Court in the Seventh Judicial Region to be stationed in the Municipality of Dalaguete,
3 Province of Cebu.

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5 The Supreme Court shall assign the branch number of the newly created branch
6 of the Regional Trial Court in the Seventh Judicial Region.

7
8 **SECTION 2.** The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in coordination with the
9 Secretary of the Department of Justice, shall immediately include in the Court’s
10 program the operationalization of the Regional Trial Court branch to be stationed in the
11 Municipality of Dalaguete, Province of Cebu. The funds necessary for the operation of
12 the court herein created shall be appropriated and released only upon the actual
13 organization of the court and the appointment of its personnel.

14
15 **SECTION. 3.** Section 14(h) of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129 otherwise known as the
16 “The Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980”, as amended, and all the other laws, rules,
17 and regulations which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed, or
18 modified accordingly.

19
20 **SECTION. 4.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in
21 the Official gazette or a newspaper of general circulation.

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23 Approved,