



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



TWENTIETH CONGRESS

First Regular Session
House Bill No. 5548

Introduced by District Representative Nelson S. Legacion
Third Congressional District, Camarines Sur

EXPLANATORY NOTE

"All persons shall have the right to a speedy disposition of their cases before all judicial, quasi-judicial, or administrative bodies." These words are engraved upon the supreme law of the land, in Section 16, Article 111 of our Constitution.

Naga City, as well as the surrounding Municipalities of the Third District of Camarines Sur are serviced by few and far between branches of the Court, and this situation imposes a great strain upon the administration of justice for our people. The numerous hindrances to access justice, chief among others, the long and expensive transportation, as well as the increasingly growing population covered by the 5th Judicial Region, clogs the court dockets, and piles upon the limited material time of the existing branches of the Court.

It is then imperative that the state – through its duly elected legislative body, ensure that our people have their day in court, that they have equitable, effective, and efficient access to justice. It is through enacting measures that guarantee these that our people would naturally be able to trust in our governance. Through this measure, as well as the earlier filed House Bill 2362, both proposing additional branches of the Court, every Juan will have better confidence in the justice system, and in the rule of law.

In view of the foregoing, the early passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

NELSON S. LEGACION
Representative, 3RD District, Camarines Sur



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AN ACT CREATING ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT, THE FAMILY COURT, THE MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT IN CITIES, AND THE MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT IN THE 5TH JUDICIAL REGION, TO BE STATIONED AT THE MUNICIPALITIES OF CALABANGA, AND PILI, AS WELL AS THE CITY OF NAGA, PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 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. There is hereby created one additional Regional Trial Court (RTC) Branch in the Fifth Judicial Region to be stationed at the City of Naga, Camarines Sur.

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

Section 2. There are hereby created two additional Regional Trial Courts, to be designated as Family Court (FC) Branches in the Fifth Judicial Region to be stationed at the City of Naga, Camarines Sur; and at the Municipality of Calabanga, Camarines Sur.

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

Section 3. There are hereby created three additional Municipal Trial Court in Cities (MTCC) Branches in the Fifth Judicial Region to be stationed at the City of Naga, Camarines Sur.

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

Section 4. There are hereby created two additional Municipal Trial Court (MTC) Branches in the Fifth Judicial Region to be stationed at the Municipality of Pili, Camarines Sur.

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

Section 5. 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 branches of the RTC, FC, MTCC, and MTC in their respective stations. The Supreme Court shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act. The funding therefor shall likewise be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Section 6. Section 14(f) and Section 30 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.

Section 7. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,