



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 11262



Introduced by **Representative EDUARDO R. RAMA JR.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Cebu City is the most populous highly urbanized city in Central Visayas. It serves as a principal center for commerce, education, health care, and government services in the region and consequently receives a substantial volume of litigation arising from its dense population and extensive economic activity.

The existing Regional Trial Court (RTC) branches in Cebu City are required to handle a broad range of cases, including criminal prosecutions, civil actions, commercial disputes, special proceedings, and other matters assigned by law. Evidently, the increasing volume of cases place significant burden on the existing courts, judges, and court personnel. When judicial dockets become congested, hearings may be scheduled farther apart, resulting in delays in the resolution of cases and litigants incurring additional expenses in pursuing or defending their claims.

The creation of additional RTC branches will allow for a more equitable distribution of cases, improved calendar management, and closer attention to the requirements of each docket. It will also help promote the constitutional guarantee of a speedy disposition of cases and enhance public access to justice.

Thus, enactment of this measure will help reduce docket congestion, improve the timely disposition of cases, lower the costs of litigation, and strengthen the delivery of judicial services in Cebu City.

It is therefore earnestly urged that this bill be given favorable consideration and
immediate approval.



REP. EDUARDO R. RAMA, JR.
2nd District, City of Cebu



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AN ACT
CREATING FIVE (5) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL
COURT IN THE CITY OF CEBU, PROVINCE OF CEBU, AMENDING FOR THE
PURPOSE BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
“JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980”, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Five (5) additional branches of the Regional Trial Court in the Seventh Judicial Region are hereby created and stationed in the City of Cebu, Province of Cebu. The Supreme Court shall assign the branch number for the newly-created branch of the Regional Trial Court.

SECTION 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 the newly-created branch of the Regional Trial Court in the City of Cebu, Province of Cebu. The Supreme Court shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act, and if warranted, the realignment of the seats of existing branches and their territorial jurisdiction.

SECTION 3. The funds necessary for the implementation of this Act, including appropriations for personnel services such as salaries, benefits, emoluments for judges and court personnel, and court operations under maintenance and other operating expenses (MOOE), and

provisions for Halls of Justice or courtrooms to accommodate judges and court staff, as well as funds necessary for the implementation of automatically created prosecutor positions pursuant to Section 13 of Republic Act No. 10071, or the “Prosecution Service Act of 2010”, and appointment of public attorneys pursuant to Section 7 of Republic Act No. 9406, or the “Act Reorganizing and Strengthening the Public Attorney’s Office (PAO)”. Resulting from the creation of these courts, including appropriations for personnel services, such as salaries, benefits, and emoluments for prosecutors and public attorneys, 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 only upon the actual organization of the court and the appointment of its personnel.

SECTION 4. Section 14(l) 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 5. *Effectivity.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,