

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 624



Submitted by the Committees on Justice and Appropriations on **September 7, 2026**

Re: House Bill No. **11174**

Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 4998

Sponsors: Representatives Atty. Gerville "Jinky Bitrics" R. Luistro, Mikaela Angela B. Suansing and Jose Manuel "JM" F. Lagdameo

Mr. Speaker:

The Committees on Justice and Appropriations, to which was referred House Bill No. 4998, introduced by Representative Jose Manuel "JM" F. Lagdameo, entitled:

AN ACT

CREATING ONE (1) ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE ELEVENTH (11TH) JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CARMEN, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL NORTE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14(L) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED

have considered the same and recommend that the attached House Bill No. **11174**, entitled:

AN ACT

CREATING ONE (1) ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CARMEN, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL NORTE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14(L) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED

be approved in substitution of House Bill No. 4998, with Representatives Jose Manuel "JM" F. Lagdameo, Atty. Gerville "Jinky Bitrics" R. Luistro, Mikaela Angela B. Suansing, Albert S. Garcia, Arnie B. Fuentebella, Maria Angela S. Garcia, Monique Yazmin Maria Q. Lagdameo, Joseph S. Tan, Loreto S. Amante, Charisse Anne C. Hernandez, Augustina Dominique "Ditse Tina" C. Pancho, Johanne Monich G. Bautista, Ma. Isabel L. Sagarbarria, Brian Poe, Reynante U. Arrogancia, Ma. Cristina Talavera Lopez, Ricardo S. Cruz Jr., Laarni Lavin Roque, Florabel C. Yatco, Jaime Eduardo Marc D. Cojuangco, Kenneth T. Gatchalian and Brian Raymund S. Yamsuan as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted,



MIKAELA ANGELA B. SUANSING
Chairperson
Committee on Appropriations



Atty. GERVILLE "JINKY BITRICS" R. LUISTRO
Chairperson
Committee on Justice

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
QUEZON CITY

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 11174
(in substitution of House Bill No. 4998)

Introduced by Representatives Jose Manuel "JM" F. Lagdameo, Atty. Gerville "Jinky Bitrics" R. Luistro, Mikaela Angela B. Suansing, Albert S. Garcia, Arnie B. Fuentebella, Maria Angela S. Garcia, Monique Yazmin Maria Q. Lagdameo, Joseph S. Tan, Loreto S. Amante, Charisse Anne C. Hernandez, Augustina Dominique "Ditse Tina" C. Pancho, Johanne Monich G. Bautista, Ma. Isabel L. Sagarbarria, Brian Poe, Reynante U. Arrogancia, Ma. Cristina Talavera Lopez, Ricardo S. Cruz Jr., Laarni Lavin Roque, Florabel C. Yatco, Jaime Eduardo Marc D. Cojuangco, Kenneth T. Gatchalian and Brian Raymund S. Yamsuan

AN ACT

CREATING ONE (1) ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CARMEN, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL NORTE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14(L) 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) branch of the Regional Trial Court in the Eleventh Judicial Region is hereby created and stationed in the Municipality of Carmen, Province of Davao del Norte.

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 branch of the Regional Trial Court in the Municipality of Carmen, Province of Davao del Norte.

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, 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), Amending for the Purpose Pertinent Provisions of Executive Order No. 292, Otherwise Known as the "Administrative Code 1987", As Amended, Granting Special Allowance to PAO Officials and Lawyers, and Providing Funds Therefor", 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.

SEC. 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.

31 **SEC. 5.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in
32 a newspaper of general circulation.
33
34 Approved,

House of Representatives Committee Affairs Department

FACT SHEET

House Bill No. 11174

(in substitution of House Bill No. 4998)

(Approved by the Committee on February 24, 2026)

AN ACT

CREATING ONE (1) ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CARMEN, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL NORTE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14(L) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS “THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980”, AS AMENDED

Introduced by: Representatives Jose Manuel “JM” F. Lagdameo, Atty. Gerville “Jinky Bitrics” R. Luistro, Mikaela Angela B. Suansing, Albert S. Garcia, Arnie B. Fuentesbela, Maria Angela S. Garcia, Monique Yazmin Maria Q. Lagdameo, Joseph S. Tan, Loreto S. Amante, Charisse Anne C. Hernandez, Augustina Dominique “Ditse Tina” C. Pancho, Johanne Monich G. Bautista, Ma. Isabel L. Sagarbarria, Brian Poe, Reynante U. Arrogancia, Ma. Cristina Talavera Lopez, Ricardo S. Cruz Jr., Laarni Lavin Roque, Florabel C. Yatco, Jaime Eduardo Marc D. Cojuangco, Kenneth T. Gatchalian and Brian Raymund S. Yamsuan

Committee Referral: COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE (Primary)

Committee Chairperson: REP. Atty. GERVILLE “JINKY BITRICS” R. LUISTRO

Committee Referral: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS (Secondary)

Committee Chairperson: REP. MIKAELA ANGELA B. SUANSING

OBJECTIVE:

- To ensure the speedy disposition of cases and to declog court dockets.

KEY PROVISIONS:

- Creates one (1) additional branch of the Regional Trial Court (RTC) in the Eleventh Judicial Region to be stationed in the Municipality of Carmen, Province of Davao del Norte.
- Mandates that 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, 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), Amending for the Purpose Pertinent Provisions of Executive Order No. 292, Otherwise Known as the “Administrative Code 1987”, As Amended, Granting Special Allowance to PAO Officials and Lawyers, and Providing Funds Therefor”, 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.
- Provides that 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.

RELATED LAWS:

- **Batas Pambansa Blg. 129**, as amended, otherwise known as “The Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980”