EXPLANATORY NOTE

"Justice delayed is justice denied" so the old adage goes. There are various factors why cases filed in courts are not resolved quickly. However, lack of sufficient number of courts in certain locality is a major cause. This is the reason why under Batas Pambansa Bilang 129, or the Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980, most municipalities of the country were provided with one (1) municipal trial court, and the municipality of La Trinidad, being the capital town of Benguet is provided with one municipal trial court. However, through the passage of time, La Trinidad has tremendously grown into a vibrant and populous municipality. While such growth is a positive development, this development also brought the unprecedented increase in the volume of cases filed and handled by the lone municipal trial court. In order to address the increased volume of cases, there is a need to create additional municipal trial court in order to prevent unreasonable delay in the disposition of cases.

It is therefore earnestly requested that support and approval of this measure be granted.

NESTOR B. FONGWAN, SR.
Lone District, Benguet
Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5678

Introduced by Rep. NESTOR B. FONGWAN, SR

AN ACT CREATING AN ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LA TRINIDAD, PROVINCE OF BENGUET, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 129, SECTION 30

Section 1. Section 30 of Batas Pambansa Bilang 130 is hereby amended to read as follows, to wit:

SECTION 30. Municipal Trial Courts. In each of the municipalities that are not comprised within a metropolitan area and a municipal circuit there shall be a Municipal Trial Court which shall have one branch, except as hereunder provided:

xxx

Two (2) branches for La Trinidad, Benguet;

xxx

Section 2. The Chief of Justice of the Supreme Court, in coordination with the Secretary of Justice, shall immediately include in the court’s program the operationalization of an additional Municipal Trial Court Branch in the Municipality of La Trinidad, Benguet, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Section 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

APPROVED.