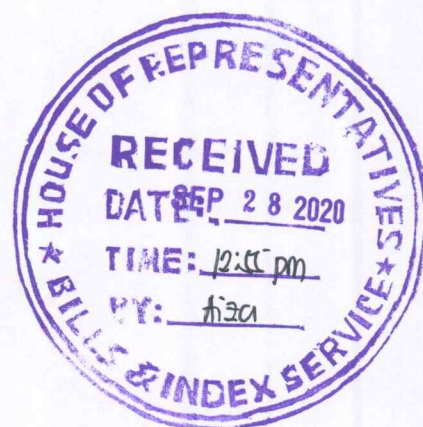


Republic of the Philippine
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH (18th) CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 7781



Introduced by Representative Rudy S. Caoagdan
2nd District, North Cotabato

EXPLANATORY NOTE


There are only Three (3) branches of the Regional Trial Court in the judicial district of Kidapawan which serves the City of Kidapawan and the Municipalities of Makilala, Magpet, Tulumun, Pres. Roxas, Antipas and Arakan. There is also a single sala Municipal Trial Court in Cities (MTCC) in Kidapawan City which serves the fast developing City of Kidapawan. All said courts are within the Second Congressional District of Cotabato province.

The said courts are now loaded, above and beyond their respective ideal caseloads with an average caseloads of Eight Hundred (800) cases per branch due to the invigorated fight against criminalities and the increased access of the people to their courts.

The single sala MTCC had been flooded with so much cases especially with the advent of small claims cases and crimes against properties due to the enactment of RA 10951 otherwise known as An Act Adjusting the Amount or the Value of Property and Damage on Which a Penalty is Based and the Fines Imposed Under the Revised Penal Code, Amending for the Purpose Act No. 3815, Otherwise Known as "The Revised Penal Code", as Amended".

With the strict implementation of the Guidelines on Continuous Trial in Criminal Cases and the advent of the Revised Rules on Civil Procedure wherein resolution of civil disputes are being speed up, the health of trial judges are at very high risk and may sometimes result to poor performances inimical to the dispensation of justice.

Hence, there is a need to augment these existing branches to better deliver swift and effective to the people of this congressional district in particular and the country in general, by establishing additional RTC branch and MCTC Branch therein.



RUDY S. CAOAGDAN
Representative
2nd District, North Cotabato

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EIGHTEENTH (18th) CONGRESS
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HOUSE BILL No. 7781

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AN ACT

ESTABLISHING ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT (RTC) AND MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT IN CITIES (MTCC) KIDAPAWAN CITY IN THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED AT THE CITY OF KIDAPAWAN, PROVINCE OF COTABATO AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 14(M) AND 29 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. There is hereby created the following:

a.) One (1) additional branch of the Regional Trial Court (RTC) in the Twelfth (12th Judicial Region to be stationed at Kidapawan City, and

b.) One (1) additional branch of the Municipal Trial Court in Cities (MTCC) Kidapawan City.

The Supreme Court shall assign the branch numbers of the said newly created branches.

Section 2. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Philippines, in coordination the Secretary Department of Justice, shall immediately include in the judiciary's program the operationalization of the said additional branches, the funding of which shall be included in the General Appropriations Acts (GAA).

Section 3. Sections 14(m) and 29 of Batas Pambansa Bilang 129 (BP 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 4. This Act shall take effect Fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

APPROVED.