

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 5985



Introduced by Representative RAMON V.A. "RAV" ROCAMORA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The province of Siquijor is currently experiencing a growing population and economy that necessitates an increase in the services that must be provided to Siquijodnons. One of the needs that must be met is access to the justice system via the lower courts.

Currently, there is only one Regional Trial Court (RTC) with one branch in the province. Creating an additional branch of the RTC will ease the burden of this lone branch in the province that currently attends to a population of close to 96,000 people.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this measure is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "RAV" with a flourish.

RAMON V.A. "RAV" M. ROCAMORA

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AN ACT CREATING ONE (1) ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED AT THE MUNICIPALITY OF LARENA, PROVINCE OF SIQUIJOR, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE

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

Section 1. One (1) additional Regional Trial Court (RTC) branch at Larena, Siquijor, with seats thereat, are hereby created in the Seventh Judicial Region.

Section 2. The Supreme Court shall assign the respective branch numbers for the newly created branch.

Section 3. 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 implementation of this Act. The funding therefore shall likewise be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. The funds necessary for the operation of the additional RTC branch herein created shall be appropriated and released only upon the actual organization of the court's branch and the appointment of its personnel.

Section 4. Section 14(e) of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as "The Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980", as amended, as well as other provisions that may be inconsistent herewith, are hereby deemed repealed, modified and/or further amended.

Section 5. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after completion of its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,