

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7902



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INTRODUCED BY HON. ROBERTO "ROBBIE" V. PUNO

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to create an additional 10 branches of the Regional Trial Court (RTC) and five (5) branches of the Municipal Trial Court in Cities (MTCC) in the City of Antipolo, Rizal.

Antipolo has been cited as the most populous city in CALABARZON and the seventh most populous city in the country in the 2015 Census Population (POPCEN) with 776,386 persons. This number is anticipated to increase over the years with the initiative of the government to make more opportunities available in the provinces and thereby attract the migration of more people into the city. As such, legal cases are also expected to increase along with the projected spike in population.

This measure seeks to aid in decongesting the existing branches and ensure the prompt resolution of cases, and to ensure adequate legal services in line with the trend of migration of people to Metro Manila's neighboring cities and municipalities, as well as the recent transfer of the capital and seat of government of the Province of Rizal to Antipolo City.

This is in accordance to Section 16, Article III of the Philippine Constitution that assures all persons the right to a speedy trial.

For the aforementioned reasons, immediate passage of this bill is sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robbie V. Puno".

**ROBERTO "ROBBIE" V. PUNO**

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**AN ACT CREATING TEN (10) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT AND FIVE (5) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT IN CITIES IN THE FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED AT THE CITY OF ANTIPOLO, PROVINCE OF RIZAL, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**SEC. 1.** Ten (10) additional branches of the Regional Trial Court and five (5) additional branches of the Municipal Trial Court in Cities to be stationed in Antipolo City, Rizal, are hereby created in the Fourth Judicial Region

**SEC. 2.** The Supreme Court shall assign the respective branch numbers for the newly created branches.

**SEC. 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 therefor shall likewise 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 Courts and the appointment of its personnel.

**SEC. 4.** Sections 14(e) and 29 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.

**SEC. 5.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,