


THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )

5 SEP 22 9:53

SENATE  
S.B. No. 2128

RECEIVED BY: 

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

To further facilitate the administration and enforcement of the provisions of the Labor Code, as amended, and to reduce the inflow of cases to the National Labor Relations Commission, it is proper to consolidate the jurisdiction of the Regional Office of the Department of Labor and Employment over all cases involving recovery of wages and other monetary claims and benefits by 1) removing the five thousand peso ceiling found in Article 129 of the said Code, and 2) amending the jurisdiction of labor arbiters provided in Article 217.

These amendments as contained in this bill will contribute to the speedy disposition of labor related cases.


The urgent passage of this bill is thus recommended.

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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AN ACT  
DEFINING THE JURISDICTION OF LABOR CASES BETWEEN THE NATIONAL LABOR  
RELATIONS COMMISSION AND THE REGIONAL OFFICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE, ARTICLES 129 AND  
217 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE FOUR HUNDRED FORTY TWO (PD 442), AS  
AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES

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

SECTION 1. Article 129 of the Labor Code is hereby further amended, to read as  
follows:

Article 129. Recovery of wages, simple money claims and other benefits.  
– Upon complaint of any interested party, the regional director of the department  
of labor and employment or any of the duly authorized hearing officers of the  
department, REGARDLESS OF THE AMOUNT OF CLAIM, is empowered  
through summary proceedings and after due notice, to hear and decide any matter  
involving the recovery of wages and other monetary claims and benefits,  
including legal interest, owing to an employee or person employed in domestic or  
household service or household helper under this code, arising from employer-  
employee relations: Provided, that such complaint does not include a claim for  
reinstatement.

x x x

SECTION 2. Article 217 (a) (6) of the Labor Code is hereby further amended to read as  
follows:

Article 217. Jurisdiction of Labor Arbiters And The Commission.

X X X

(a) (6) Exceptions. – Except claims for Employees Compensation, Social Security, Medicare and Maternity Benefits, all other claims, arising from employer-employee relations, including those of persons in domestic or household service, INVOLVING ALL MONETARY CLAIMS ACCOMPANIED WITH A CLAIM FOR REINSTATEMENT.

SECTION 3. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision, or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 4. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, acts, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations or other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby modified and repealed.

SECTION 5. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,