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SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

COMMITTEE REPORT No. 228

Submitted jointly by the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Finance on

MAR - 7 2024

Re: House Bill No. 8259

Recommending the approval of House Bill No. 8259, with amendments.

Sponsor: Senator Francis "Tol" N. Tolentino

MR. PRESIDENT:

The Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Finance, to which were referred **House Bill No. 8259**, introduced by Representatives Zamora (Y. M.), Ferrer (J.M.), et al., entitled:

"AN ACT

CREATING ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT AND METROPOLITAN TRIAL COURT IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN THE CITY OF SAN JUAN, CONVERTING FOUR (4) BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN PASIG CITY INTO FOUR (4) BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN CITY OF SAN JUAN, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14(E) AND 27 OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980', AS AMENDED"

have considered the same and have the honor to report it back to the Senate with the recommendation that House Bill No. 8259, be approved with the following amendments:

- 1) On page 2, line 12, Section 2, after the punctuation mark ".", insert a new sentence as follows:

"THE SUPREME COURT SHALL ISSUE THE NECESSARY RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT AND, IF WARRANTED, THE REALIGNMENT OF SEATS OF EXISTING BRANCHES AND THEIR TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION.";

- 2) On page 2, line 39, Section 6, between the words "staff," and "shall", insert the phrase:

"AS WELL AS FUNDS NECESSARY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AUTOMATICALLY CREATED PROSECUTOR POSITIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10071 OR THE 'PROSECUTION SERVICE ACT OF 2010' AND APPOINTMENT OF PUBLIC ATTORNEYS PURSUANT TO SECTION 7 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9406 OR THE "ACT REORGANIZING AND STRENGTHENING THE PUBLIC ATTORNEY'S OFFICE (PAO)", RESULTING FROM THE CREATION OF THESE COURTS, INCLUDING APPROPRIATIONS FOR PERSONNEL SERVICES SUCH AS SALARIES, BENEFITS, AND EMOLUMENTS FOR PROSECUTORS AND PUBLIC ATTORNEYS.";

- 3) On the same page, line 39, Section 6, after the phrase "General Appropriations Act." insert a new paragraph to read as:

"THE FUNDS NECESSARY FOR THE OPERATION OF THE COURTS HEREIN CREATED SHALL BE APPROPRIATED

AND RELEASED ONLY UPON THE ACTUAL ORGANIZATION OF THE COURT AND THE APPOINTMENT OF ITS PERSONNEL.”;

4) On the same page, insert a new **Section 7** to read as:

“SEC. 7. IN VIEW OF THE PROPOSED CONVERSION FOUR (4) BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT FOR PASIG CITY STATIONED IN THE CITY OF SAN JUAN INTO FOUR (4) BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT FOR THE CITY OF SAN JUAN AND TWO (2) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES FOR THE CITY OF SAN JUAN, THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT OF SAN JUAN CITY WILL HAVE SEVEN (7) BRANCHES. THE STAFFING PATTERN OF EACH BRANCH SHALL BE AS FOLLOWS:

No. of Positions	Position Title	SG
1	Regional Trial Court Judge	29
1	Clerk of Court V	24
1	Court Legal Researcher II	15
1	Interpreter III	12
4	Court Stenographer III	12
1	Sheriff IV	12
2	Clerk III	6
1	Process Server	5
1	Utility Worker I	1
13	Personnel	

THE STAFF COMPLEMENT OF THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT (OCC) SHALL BE COMPOSED OF TWENTY-FOUR (24) PERSONNEL, UNLESS THE SAME IS MODIFIED AS MAY BE DETERMINED BY THE SUPREME COURT.”

5) Still on the same page, insert a new **Section 8** to read as:

“SEC. 8. IN VIEW OF THE PROPOSED TWO (2) ADDITIONAL METROPOLITAN TRIAL COURTS, THE

METROPOLITAN TRIAL COURT IN THE CITY OF SAN JUAN SHALL HAVE FOUR (4) BRANCHES. THE STAFFING PATTERN OF EACH BRANCH SHALL BE AS FOLLOWS:

No.	Positions	SG
1	Metropolitan Trial Court Judge	28
1	Clerk of Court III	22
1	Court Legal Researcher I	12
1	Interpreter II	10
3	Court Stenographer II	10
1	Sheriff III	10
2	Clerk III	6
1	Process Server	5
1	Utility Worker I	1
12	Personnel	

THE STAFF COMPLEMENT OF THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT (OCC) SHALL BE COMPOSED OF TWENTY-THREE (23) PERSONNEL, UNLESS THE SAME IS MODIFIED AS MAY BE DETERMINED BY THE SUPREME COURT.

IN ADDITION, THERE SHALL BE APPOINTED THE CORRESPONDING NUMBER OF PROSECUTOR/S AND PUBLIC ATTORNEY/S AND THEIR SUPPORT STAFF BASED ON THE RATIO OUTLINED IN REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10071 AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9406, RESPECTIVELY.”;

6) Finally, renumber the sections accordingly.

Respectfully submitted:

Chairpersons



SEN. SONNY ANGARA
Committee on Finance
Vice Chairperson, Committee on Justice and Human Rights




SEN. FRANCIS "TOL" N. TOLENTINO
Committee on Justice and Human Rights
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SEN. PIA S. CAYETANO
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SEN. IMEE R. MARCOS
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SEN. CYNTHIA A. VILLAR
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Member, Committee on Justice and Human Rights

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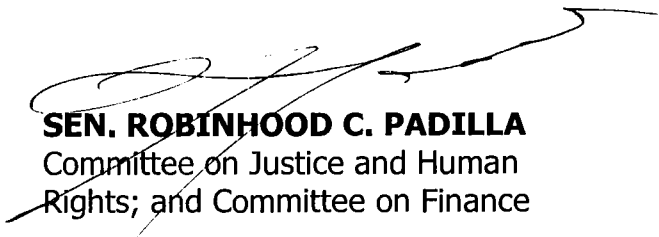
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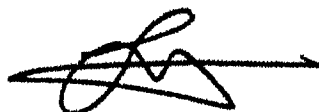


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Ex Officio Members

SEN. LOREN LEGARDA

President Pro Tempore

Senior Vice Chairperson, Committee on Finance

“will interpellate”



SEN. JOEL VILLANUEVA

Majority Leader

SEN. AQUILINO “KOKO” PIMENTEL III

Minority Leader

HON. JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

Senate President

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Senate President



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 8259

BY REPRESENTATIVES ZAMORA (Y.M.), FERRER (J.M.), CO (E.), QUIMBO, MENDOZA, LIBANAN, ALBANO, DELOS SANTOS, GARIN, GONZALEZ, PALMA, PRIMICIAS-AGABAS, TEVES (J.), ALVAREZ (M.), ALVAREZ (J.), AQUINO, BAUTISTA-LIM, BERNOS, BONGALON, CABREDO, CAJAYON-UY, CARI, CO (A.N.), CUA, CUARESMA, DEL MAR, DUJALI, FUENTEBELLA, LARA, LIMKAICHONG, LOYOLA, NAVA, SALIMBANGON, SINGSON (R.V.), TIANGCO, UMALI, VARGAS-ALFONSO, YAP (ERIC), YU (D.G.), ZAMORA (M.C.), ZUBIRI, ABALOS, ALMARIO, AMANTE, ANG, ATAYDE, BASCUG, BOSITA, BUSTOS, CARDEMA, CHATTO, CHUNGALAO, CO-PILAR, CRUZ (A.), CRUZ (R.), DAGOOC, DIMAPORO (S.A.), DIONISIO, DY (F.M.C.), EUDELA, FORTES, FRESNEDI, GARCIA (D.), GARDIOLA, GO (M.), GOLEZ, GUTIERREZ, HERNANDEZ, KHONGHUN, LAGON (D.), LAGON (S.), LAZATIN, MACEDA, MANGAOANG, MANQUIZ, MATIBAG, MERCADO, NOGRALES (M.), OUANO-DIZON, PANALIGAN, PANCHO, PLAZA, PLEYTO, REVILLA (R.J.), RODRIGUEZ (E.), SALI, SANTOS, TAN (J.), TULFO (J.), UNABIA, VARGAS, VERGARA, VERZOSA, YAP (C.), BULUT-BEGTANG, DALOG, GASATAYA, GOMEZ, MARAÑON, ROMULO, SALO, TEVES (A.), VILLA, VILLAFUERTE (L.R.) AND YULO, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 573

AN ACT

CREATING ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT AND METROPOLITAN TRIAL COURT IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN THE CITY OF SAN JUAN, CONVERTING FOUR (4) BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN PASIG CITY INTO FOUR (4) BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN CITY OF SAN JUAN, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14(E) AND 27 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:

1 **SECTION 1.** Four (4) branches of the Regional Trial Court for the City of Pasig and
2 located in the City of San Juan, namely Branches 68, 160, 162 and 164, are hereby
3 converted into branches of the Regional Trial Court for the City of San Juan.
4

5 The Supreme Court shall assign the respective branch numbers of the newly
6 converted branches of the Regional Trial Court under this Section, if necessary.
7

8 **SEC. 2.** In addition to the newly converted branches of the Regional Trial Court for
9 the City of San Juan under the preceding section, two (2) additional branches of the
10 Regional Trial Court and two (2) additional branches of the Metropolitan Trial Court in
11 the National Capital Judicial Region are hereby created and stationed in the City of San
12 Juan.
13

14 The Supreme Court shall assign the respective branch numbers for the newly
15 created branches of the Regional Trial Court and Metropolitan Trial Court in the City of
16 San Juan.
17

18 **SEC. 3.** An Office of the Clerk of Court shall be created and organized with the
19 corresponding *plantilla* based on the number of branches in the said station.
20

21 **SEC. 4.** The jurisdiction over cases emanating from the City of San Juan, cognizable
22 by the proper courts under existing law, shall be lodged in the branches of the Regional
23 Trial Court or Metropolitan Trial Court created under this Act, and in such other
24 branches that may be subsequently created, organized and stationed in the City of San
25 Juan.
26

27 The territorial jurisdiction for the Regional Trial Court and the Metropolitan Trial
28 Court in the City of Pasig is hereby modified to exclude the City of San Juan.
29

30 **SEC. 5.** The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in coordination with the Secretary
31 of the Department of Justice, shall immediately include in the Court's program the
32 operationalization of the newly created and converted branches of the Regional Trial
33 Court and Metropolitan Trial Court in the City of San Juan.
34

35 **SEC. 6.** The funds necessary for the implementation of this Act, including
36 appropriations for personnel services such as salaries, benefits and emoluments for
37 judges and court personnel, court operations under maintenance and other operating
38 expenses (MOOE), and provisions for Halls of Justice or courtrooms to accommodate
39 judges and court staff, shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.
40

41 **SEC. 7.** Section 14(d) and Section 28 of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise
42 known as "The Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980", as amended, and all other laws,
43 rules and regulations which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended,
44 repealed or modified accordingly.
45

46 **SEC. 8.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in
47 the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,