


8 MAY - 6 2008

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 48

Submitted by the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Finance on MAY - 6 2008.

Re: Senate Bill No. 1980.

Recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Escudero, Enrile and Zubiri.

MR. PRESIDENT:


The Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Finance to which was referred Senate Bill No. 1980, introduced by Senator Zubiri, entitled:


**"AN ACT
ESTABLISHING AN ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL
COURT BRANCH IN THE PROVINCE OF SOUTH COTABATO, AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 129, AS AMENDED
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF
1981, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"**

have considered the same and have the honor to report it back to the Senate with the recommendation that it be approved without amendment.

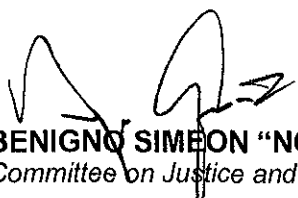
Respectfully Submitted:

Chairmen:


JUAN PONCE ENRILE
Committee on Finance
Member, Committee on Justice and Human Rights


FRANCIS "CHIZ" G. ESCUDERO
Committee on Justice and Human Rights
Member, Committee on Finance

Vice-Chairmen:



BENIGNO SIMEON "NOYNOY" AQUINO III
Committee on Justice and Human Rights



EDGARDO J. ANGARA
Committee on Finance


JOKER P. ARROYO
Committee on Finance


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
Committee on Finance

Members:


"COMPAÑERA" PIA S. CAYETANO
Committee on Justice and Human Rights
Committee on Finance


RODOLFO G. BIAZON
Committee on Justice and Human Rights
Committee on Finance


ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO
Committee on Justice and Human Rights


GREGORIO B. HONASAN II
Committee on Justice and Human Rights
Committee on Finance


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.
Committee on Justice and Human Rights
Committee on Finance


M.A. MADRIGAL
Committee on Justice and Human Rights
Committee on Finance


RICHARD J. GORDON
Committee on Finance


MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID
Committee on Finance


JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI
Committee on Finance


PANFILO M. LACSON
Committee on Finance



LOREN B. LEGARDA
Committee on Finance



MAR ROXAS
Committee on Finance

ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV
Committee on Finance

Ex-Officio Members:



JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA
President Pro-Tempore



FRANCIS N. PANGILINAN
Majority Leader




AQUILINO Q. PIMENTEL JR.
Minority Leader

Hon. MANNY VILLAR
Senate President
Senate of the Philippines
Pasay City

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

7 0 0 0

SENATE

RECEIVED 

S. No. 1980

Introduced by Senator JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill provides for the establishment of an additional branch of the Regional Trial Court in Surallah, Province of South Cotabato and appropriate funds for its operation and maintenance.

The Branch 26 of the Regional Trial Court in Surallah, South Cotabato was first established as a single-sala on March 1983, with jurisdiction over seven (7) municipalities in the Province of South Cotabato namely: Tantaran, Banga, Surallah, T'boli, Lake Sebu, Sto. Niño, and Norala. It likewise exercises administrative supervision over three (3) Municipal Circuit Trial Courts namely: the Municipal Circuit Trial Court of Banga-Tantaran, the Municipal Circuit Trial Court of Surallah-Lake Sebu and the Municipal Circuit Trial Court of Norala-T'boli-Sto.Niño.


Aside from being a court of general jurisdiction, RTC, Branch 26, as a single-sala court is automatically designated as a Family Court having exclusive original jurisdiction over criminal cases involving minors, or when one more of the victims is a minor at the time of the commission of the offense, petitions for guardianship, custody of children, adoption, annulment of marriage, declaration of nullity, legal separation, support of children, paternity suits and cases involving child abuse.

As of December 31, 2003, the number of cases pending before RTC, Branch 26 Surallah, South Cotabato totals to 865 criminal and civil cases. Based on the number of cases received and the number of case disposals during the ensuing six (6) month period, January to June 2004, the number of pending cases is still rising despite the average disposal of 18 cases a month. Hence, there is an urgent need to provide for an additional branch of the RTC in Surallah to unclog the dockets of Branch 26 with numerous cases and improve the disposition and administration of justice in the entire province.

In view of the foregoing considerations, the approval of this bill is earnestly recommended.


JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

SENATE

RECEIVED BY 

S. No. 1980

Introduced by Senator JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

**AN ACT
ESTABLISHING AN ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
BRANCH IN THE PROVINCE OF SOUTH COTABATO, AMENDING FOR THE
PURPOSE BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 129, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1981 AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR.**

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 14, Paragraph (I) of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, as
2 amended, otherwise known as the Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1981, is hereby
3 amended to read as follows:

4 "SEC. 14. Regional Trial Courts

5 X X X

6 (I) **FORTY-TWO** [forty-one] Regional Trial Judges shall be commissioned for the
7 Eleventh Judicial Region. There shall be:

8 X X X

9 "**ELEVEN** [Ten] branches with seats for the Province of South Cotabato and the
10 City of General Santos, with seats at General Santos City, Koronadal, Surallah, Alabel,
11 and Polomolok; and"

12 SECTION 2. The Supreme Court shall issue the necessary rules and regulations
13 for the effective implementation of this Act.

14 SECTION 3. The amount necessary to carry-out the provisions of this Act shall
15 be charged to the appropriations of the Supreme Court under the current General
16 Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary for the operation and
17 maintenance of the newly established court branch shall be included in the annual
18 General Appropriations Act.

19 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

20 Approved,

14th Congress
Senate Bill No. 1980
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT BRANCH (SOUTH COTABATO)
Filed on December 19, 2007 by Zubiri, Juan Miguel F.

[Overview](#) | [Committee Referral](#) | [Leg. History](#) | [All Information](#)

Long title

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT BRANCH IN THE PROVINCE OF SOUTH COTABATO, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 129, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1981 AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Scope

Local

Legislative status

Pending in the Committee (12/19/2007)