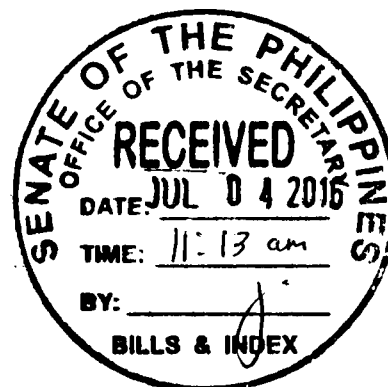


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

S E N A T E
S. B. No. 299



Introduced by Senator Aquilino “Koko” Pimentel III

**AN ACT
CREATING TWO ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE
METROPOLITAN TRIAL COURT WITH SEATS AT MALABON
CITY, METRO MANILA IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL
JUDICIAL REGION, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION
27 OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980, AS
AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In a society that looks upon the judiciary as the bulwark of rights and liberties,¹ it is imperative that we establish the correct and sustainable infrastructure to guarantee that our people are able to obtain redress in a speedy and efficient manner. It cannot be denied that our courts are clogged with numerous cases, thereby causing unneeded delays in the administration of justice.

An example is the Metropolitan Trial Court (MeTC) in Malabon City, for which there are two (2) branches. The Malabon MeTC has a total combined caseload of 2,031 as of March 2015. This translates to an average caseload of 1,015 per branch per year and exceeds the manageable caseload of 500 for first level courts by a staggering 515 cases per branch.² To address this inundation of cases in a developing city like Malabon, the creation of two branches of the MeTC is therefore necessary.

With the passage of this bill, it is my hope that soon, no Filipino will be denied justice simply due to the delay in the disposition of their cases.

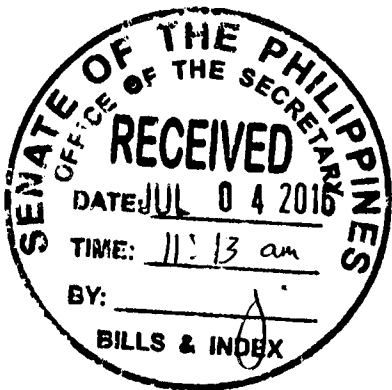

AQUILINO “KOKO” PIMENTEL III

¹Bernas, The 1987 Constitution of the Philippines: A Commentary

² Office of the Court Administrator, Supreme Court

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

1 SECTION 1. Two (2) additional branches of the Metropolitan Trial
2 Court with seats at Malabon City, Metro Manila in the National Capital
3 Judicial Region are hereby created.

4 SEC. 2. The Supreme Court shall assign the branch numbers of the
5 newly-created Metropolitan Trial Court branches under this Act.

6 SEC. 3. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in coordination
7 with the Secretary of the Department of Justice, shall immediately include
8 in the Court’s program the operationalization of the newly-created
9 Metropolitan Trial Court branches under this Act, the funding of which
10 shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act. Provided,
11 that the funds necessary for their operation shall be appropriated and

1 released only upon their actual organization and the appointment of their
2 personnel.

3 SEC. 4. Section 27 of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known
4 as "The Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980", as amended, and all other
5 laws, executive orders, and rules and regulations which are inconsistent
6 with this Act are hereby amended, repealed, or modified accordingly.

7 SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after the
8 completion of its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,