

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



Senate

Office of the Secretary

20 FEB 17 P 4:48

SENATE

S. No. 1353

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

AN ACT

FURTHER EXPANDING THE JURISDICTION OF THE METROPOLITAN TRIAL COURTS, MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURTS IN CITIES, MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURTS, AND MUNICIPAL CIRCUIT TRIAL COURTS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980," AS AMENDED

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill proposes to enact further amendments to Batas Pambansa (B.P.) Blg. 129, as amended, to increase the jurisdiction in civil cases of the first level courts nationwide, namely: the Metropolitan Trial Courts (MeTCs), Municipal Trial Courts in Cities (MCTCs), Municipal Trial Courts (MTCs), and Municipal Circuit Trial Courts (MCTCs).

It should be noted that the last adjustments to the jurisdictional amounts under various sections of BP 129, as amended by Republic Act No. 7691 or the Judiciary Reorganization Act happened on the year 2004. Since then, no further adjustments have been introduced in order to reflect inflation and other factors contributing to the increase in real property values.

This stagnancy in the law, along with the considerable rise of the fair market values of real property across the Philippines in the last ten years, resulted in the situation where nearly all civil cases involving title to, possession of, or any interest in real property are filed with the Regional Trial Courts. This, in turn, swamps our RTCs with cases that could have been filed with the MTCs and other first-level courts. The adverse effects on our justice system are quite obvious. Trial or hearing dates become

far apart and less frequent because judges are faced with an unworkable docket. Plaintiffs and respondents alike who live in municipalities where no RTCs are stationed are forced to litigate their claims in distant areas. Cases for resolution linger in the courts for longer periods of time because judges are forced to ask for continuance.

In line with the judiciary's drive to de-clog its dockets and to give life to the constitutional precept on the person's right to a speedy disposition of their cases, this bill is filed to make our laws catch up with the economic realities in our country. With these adjustments in jurisdictional amounts, more cases can now be covered by simpler and quicker procedures such as the Revised Rules on Small Claims Cases and the Revised Rules on Summary Procedure.

In view of this, early passage of this bill is sought.



MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID
Senator

Please
SIGN



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AN ACT
FURTHER EXPANDING THE JURISDICTION OF THE METROPOLITAN TRIAL COURTS, MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURTS IN CITIES, MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURTS, AND MUNICIPAL CIRCUIT TRIAL COURTS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980," AS AMENDED

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 19 of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as the
2 "Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980", As Amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

3

4 "Section 19. *Jurisdiction of the Regional Trial Courts in Civil Cases.* - Regional Trial
5 Courts shall exercise exclusive original jurisdiction:

6 x x x

7

8 (2) [In all civil actions which involve the title to, or possession of, real property, or
9 any interest therein, where the assessed value of the property involved exceeds
10 Twenty thousand pesos (P20,000.00) or, for civil actions in Metro Manila, where
11 such value exceeds Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00)] **IN ALL CIVIL ACTIONS**
12 **WHICH INVOLVE THE TITLE TO, OR POSSESSION OF, REAL PROPERTY,**
13 **OR ANY INTEREST THEREIN, WHERE THE ASSESSED VALUE EXCEEDS**
14 **FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P400,00.00),** except for forcible entry
15 into and unlawful detainer of lands or buildings, original jurisdiction over which is

1 conferred upon the Metropolitan Trial Courts, Municipal Trial Courts in Cities,
2 Municipal Trial Courts, and Municipal Circuit Trial Courts;

3 (3) In all actions in admiralty and maritime jurisdiction where the demand or claim
4 exceeds [Two hundred thousand pesos (P200,000.00)] **TWO MILLION PESOS**
5 **(P2,000,000.00)**;

6 (4) In all matters of probate, both testate and intestate, where the gross value of
7 the estate exceeds [Two hundred thousand pesos (P200,000.00)] **TWO MILLION**
8 **PESOS (P2,000,000.00)**;

9 x x x

10 (8) In all other cases in which the demand, exclusive of interest, damages of
11 whatever kind, attorney's fees, litigations expenses and costs or the value of the
12 property in controversy exceeds [Twenty thousand pesos] **TWO MILLION PESOS**
13 **(P2,000,000.00).**"

14 **SECTION 2.** Section 33 of the same law is hereby amended to read as follows:

15 "Section 33. *Jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Trial Courts, Municipal Trial Courts in Cities,*
16 *Municipal Trial Courts, and Municipal Circuit Trial Courts in Civil Cases.* – Metropolitan Trial
17 Courts, Municipal Trial Courts in Cities, Municipal Trial Courts, and Municipal Circuit Trial
18 Courts shall exercise:

19 (1) Exclusive original jurisdiction over civil actions and probate proceedings, testate and
20 intestate, including the grant of provisional remedies in proper cases where the value
21 of the personal property, estate or amount of the demand [does not exceed One
22 hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) or, in Metro Manila where such personal
23 property, estate, or amount of the demand does not exceed Two hundred thousand
24 pesos (P200,000.00)] **DOES NOT EXCEED TWO MILLION PESOS**
25 **(P2,000,000.00)**, exclusive of interest, damages of whatever kind, attorney's fees,
26 litigation expenses, and costs, the amount of which must be specifically alleged:
27 *Provided,* that interest, damages of whatever kind, attorney's fees, litigation
28 expenses, and costs shall be included in the determination of the filing fees:
29 *Provided, further,* that where there are several claims or causes of actions between
30 the same or different parties, embodied in the same complaint, the causes of action,
31 irrespective of whether the causes of action arose out of the same or different
32 transactions;

33 x x x

34 (3) Exclusive original jurisdiction in all civil actions which involve title to, or possession
35 of, real property, or any interest therein where the assessed value of the property
36 [does not exceed Twenty thousand pesos (P20,000.00) or, in civil actions in Metro
37 Manila, where such assessed value does not exceed Fifty thousand pesos
38 (P50,000.00)] **DOES NOT EXCEED FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS**

1 **(P400,000.00)** exclusive of interest, damage of whatever kind, attorney's fees,
2 litigation expenses and costs: *Provided*, that in case of land not declared for taxation
3 purposes, the value of such property shall be determined by the assessed value of
4 the adjacent lots.
5

6 **(4) EXCLUSIVE ORIGINAL JURISDICTION IN ADMIRALTY AND MARITIME**
7 **ACTIONS WHERE THE DEMAND OR CLAIM DOES NOT EXCEED TWO**
8 **MILLION PESOS (P2,000,000.00).**

9 **SECTION 3.** Five (5) years from the effectivity of this Act and every five (5) years
10 thereafter, the jurisdictional amounts mentioned in Sec. 19 (2), (3), (4) and (8), and Sec. 33
11 (1), (3) and (4) of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, as amended by this Act, shall be increased by
12 One Hundred Thousand Pesos (P100,000.00).

13 **SECTION 4.** All laws, decrees, and orders inconsistent with the provisions of this Act
14 shall be considered amended or modified accordingly.

15 **SECTION 5.** The provisions of this Act shall apply to all civil cases that have not yet
16 reached the pre-trial stage. However, by the agreement of all the parties, civil cases cognizable
17 by the Metropolitan Trial Courts, Municipal Trial Courts in Cities, Municipal Trial Courts, and
18 Municipal Circuit Trial Courts by the provisions of this Act may be transferred from the Regional
19 Trial Courts to the latter. The Supreme Court shall define the administrative procedure for
20 the transfer of cases affected by the redefinition of jurisdiction to the Metropolitan Trial Courts,
21 Municipal Trial Courts in Cities, Municipal Trial Courts, and Municipal Trial Courts.

22 **SECTION 6.** All laws, decrees, and orders inconsistent with the provisions of this Act
23 shall be considered amended or modified accordingly.

24 **SECTION 7.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in the
25 *Official Gazette* or in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

26 *Approved,*

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



20 FEB 17 P3:51

SENATE

S.B. No. 1348

RECEIVED BY: 

INTRODUCED BY: SENATOR EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO

AN ACT
REQUIRING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMANENT CLINIC FOR
EVERY PUBLIC SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

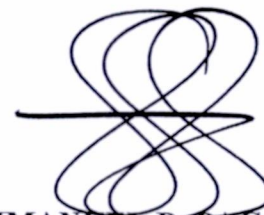
EXPLANATORY NOTE

In 2019, the Office of the Undersecretary for Planning Service and Field Operations Jesus Mateo reported that there are twenty-two million students in public schools for SY 2019-2020. With this huge number of youth who shall become the front liners of the next generation, the government should strengthen its efforts in the promotion and protection of their health. Educational institutions should take part in healthcare development by improving school health and providing adequate health services in all public schools.

In addition, the 1987 Constitution states that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them. With this, it is appropriate to improve the accessibility to health services of the future of our country.

This bill seeks for the establishment of permanent clinics in public schools throughout the country.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this measure is earnestly sought.



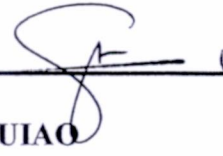
EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO

20 FEB 17 P3:51

SENATE

S.B. No. 1348

RECORDED



INTRODUCED BY: SENATOR EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO

AN ACT
REQUIRING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMANENT CLINIC FOR
EVERY PUBLIC SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **Section 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be referred to as the “Mandatory School Clinic Act of
2 2020”.

3
4 **Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the policy of the State to protect and promote the right to
5 health of the people and instill health consciousness among them.

6
7 **Sec. 3. Establishment of Clinics.** – Every public school shall be required to establish a
8 permanent clinic inside the school grounds.

9
10 **Sec. 4. On-the-spot Inspection and Monitoring.** – The provincial or city officer of the
11 Department of Education (DepEd) and the Department of Health (DOH) shall create a
12 monitoring team that shall conduct on-the-spot inspections and monitoring of public school
13 clinics to determine if they are established in accordance with the required guidelines, policies,
14 and criteria.

15
16 **Sec. 5. Implementing Agency.** – The Department of Education and the Department of Health
17 shall create the implementing rules, specifications, criteria, and details for the mandatory
18 establishment of clinics in school premises.

19

1 **Sec. 6. Appropriations.** – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall
2 be included in the General Appropriations Act.

3

4 **Sec. 7. Separability Clause.** – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared
5 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provisions not affected thereby shall remain
6 in force and effect.

7

8 **Sec. 8. Effectivity Clause.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its publication.

Approved,