CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES NINETEENTH CONGRESS *First Regular Session*

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 6584

BY REPRESENTATIVES CARI, FERRER (J.M.), CO (E.), QUIMBO, ACIDRE, ALBANO, PALMA, SUAREZ, ALVAREZ (J.), AQUINO, ARENAS, BAUTISTA-LIM, BONGALON, CAJAYON-UY, CELESTE, CUARESMA, ESPINA, GO (E.C.), GONZAGA, HARESCO, LOYOLA, MATUGAS, MOMO, NAVA, SINGSON (R.), TIANGCO, UMALI, VIOLAGO, YU (D.G.), ZUBIRI, ABALOS, ADIONG, ADVINCULA, ALMARIO, AMANTE, ANG, ASISTIO, AUMENTADO, BASCUG, BOSITA, BUSTOS, CHATTO, COJUANGCO (J.), CRUZ (A.), CRUZ (R.), DAGOOC, DIONISIO, EUDELA, FORTES, FRESNEDI, GARCIA (D.), GARCIA (M.A.), GARDIOLA, GO (M.), GOLEZ, GUTIERREZ, HERNANDEZ, KHONGHUN, LAGON (D.), LAGON (S.), LAZATIN, LEE, LEGARDA, LUISTRO, MACEDA, MANGAOANG, MASTURA, MATIBAG, NOGRALES (M.I.), OUANO-DIZON, PADUANO, PANALIGAN, PANCHO, PLEYTO, REVILLA (R.J.), RODRIGUEZ (E.), SAKALURAN, SALI, SANTOS, TAN (J.), TANCHAY, TULFO (J.), VARGAS, VERGARA, VERZOSA, YAP (C.), ENVERGA, GASATAYA, MARIANO-HERNANDEZ, MARIÑO, MARQUEZ, MIGUEL, ROQUE, VILLAFUERTE (L.R.), SAULOG AND YAP (C.T.), PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 231

AN ACT

CREATING ONE (1) ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT, TO BE DESIGNATED AS A SPECIAL COURT FOR DRUGS CASES, IN THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN THE CITY OF BAYBAY, PROVINCE OF LEYTE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14 (I) 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:

SECTION 1. One (1) additional branch of the Regional Trial Court in the Eighth Judicial Region, to be designated as a Special Court for Drugs Cases, is hereby created and stationed in the City of Baybay, Province of Leyte.

1 The Supreme Court shall assign the branch number for the newly created branch of 2 the Regional Trial Court.

SEC. 2. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in coordination with the Secretary of the Department of Justice, shall immediately include in the Court's program the operationalization of the additional branch of the Regional Trial Court in the City of Baybay, Province of Leyte.

9 **SEC. 3.** The funds necessary for the implementation of this Act, including 10 appropriations for personnel services such as salaries, benefits and emoluments for the 11 judge and court personnel, court operations under maintenance and other operating 12 expenses (MOOE), and provisions for a Hall of Justice or courtroom to accommodate 13 the judge and court staff, shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

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SEC. 4. Section 14 (i) of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as "The Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980", as amended, and all other laws, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

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20 **SEC. 5.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official* 21 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,