[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7154, September 04, 1991]

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION FOURTEEN OF BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1981

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

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

"(a) Seventy Regional Trial Judges shall be commissioned for the First Judicial Region. There shall be:

"Three branches with seats thereat for the Province of Abra, with seats at Bangued and Bucay;

"Fourteen branches with seats thereat for the Province of Benguet and the City of Baguio, with seats at Baguio City, La Trinidad, and Buguias;

"Ten branches with seats thereat for the Province of Ilocos Norte and the City of Laoag, with seats at Laoag City, Batac, and Bangui;

"Six branches with seats thereat for the Province of Ilocos Sur, with seats at Vigan, Narvacan, Cabugao, and Tagudin;

"Eleven branches with seats thereat for the Province of La Union, with seats at San Fernando, Agoo, Bauang, and Balaoan;

"Two branches with seats thereat for the Province of Mountain Province, with seats at Bontoc; and

"Twenty-four branches with seats thereat for the Province of Pangasinan and the Cities of Dagupan and San Carlos, with seats at Lingayen, Dagupan City, Urdaneta, Villasis, Tayug, Rosales, Alaminos, Burgos, and San Carlos City."

SEC. 2. Section 14, paragraph (b), of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as the Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1981, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(b) Thirty-eight Regional Trial Judges shall be commissioned for the Second Judicial Region. There shall be:

"Thirteen branches with seats thereat for the Province of Cagayan, with seats at Tuguegarao, Aparri, Tuao, Sanchez Mira, and Ballesteros;

"One branch for the Province of Batanes, with seats at Basco;

"Three branches with seats thereat for the Province of Ifugao, with seats at Lagawe, Alfonso Lista, and Banaue;

"Eleven branches with seats thereat for the Province of Isabela, with seats at Ilagan, Cauayan, Santiago, Cabagan, Roxas, and Echague;

"Two branches with seats thereat for the Province of Kalinga Apayao, with seats at Tabuk and Luna;

"Five branches with seats thereat for the Province of Nueva Vizcaya, with seats at Bayombong and Bambang; and

"Three branches with seats thereat for the Province of Quirino, with seats at Cabarroguis and Maddela."

SEC. 3. Section 14, paragraph (c), of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as the Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1981, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(c) Eighty-nine Regional Trial Judges shall be commissioned for the Third Judicial Region. There shall be:

"Five branches with seats thereat for the Province of Bataan, with seats at Balanga, Mariveles, and Dinalupihan;

"Twenty-seven branches with seats thereat for the Province of Bulacan (except the Municipality of Valenzuela), with seats at Malolos;

"Twenty-two branches with seats thereat for the Province of Nueva Ecija and the Cities of Cabanatuan, San Jose and Palayan, with seats at Cabanatuan City, Guimba, Gapan, Sto. Domingo, San Jose City, and Palayan City;

"Twenty-two branches with seats thereat for the Province of Pampanga and the City of Angeles, with seats at San Fernando, Guagua, Macabebe, and Angeles City;

"Six branches with seats thereat for the Province of Tarlac, with seats at Tarlac, Capas, Paniqui, and Camiling; and

"Seven branches with seats thereat for the Province of Zambales and the City of Olongapo, with seats at Iba and Olongapo City."

SEC. 4. Section 14, paragraph (d), of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as the Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1981, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(d) Two hundred seventy-six Regional Trial Judges shall be commissioned for the National Capital Judicial Region. There shall be:

"Ninety-seven branches for the City of Manila, with seats thereat;

"Forty-eight branches for Quezon City, with seats thereat;

"Thirteen branches for Pasay City, with seats thereat;

"Thirteen branches for Caloocan City, with seats thereat;

"One hundred two branches for the Municipalities of Navotas, Malabon, San Juan, Mandaluyong, Makati, Pasig, Pateros, Taguig, Marikina, Parañaque, Las Piñas, and Muntinlupa, with fifty-eight seated in Makati, thirty-four seated in Pasig, two seated in Marikina, five in Malabon, one in Parañaque, one in Las Piñas, and one in Muntinlupa; and

"Three branches for the Municipality of Valenzuela, with seats thereat."

SEC. 5. Section 14, paragraph (e), of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as the Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1981, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(e) Ninety-six Regional Trial Judges shall be commissioned for the Fourth Judicial Region. There shall be:

"Nineteen branches with seats thereat for the Province of Batangas and the Cities of Lipa and Batangas, with seats at Batangas City, Lemery, Taal, Tanauan, Balayan, Lipa City, Nasugbu, and Rosario;

"Twelve branches with seats thereat for the Province of Cavite and the Cities of Cavite, Tagaytay and Trece Martires, with seats at Naic, Cavite City, Tagaytay City, Bacoor, Imus, Trece Martires City, and Dasmariñas;

"Seventeen branches with seats thereat for the Province of Laguna and the City of San Pablo, with seats at Biñan, San Pedro, Sta. Cruz, San Pablo City, Siniloan, and Calamba;

"Two branches for the Province of Marinduque, with seats at Boac;

"Five branches with seats thereat for the Province of Mindoro Oriental, with seats at Calapan, Pinamalayan, and Roxas;

"Three branches with seats thereat for the Province of Mindoro Occidental, with seats at Mamburao and San Jose;

"Seven branches with seats thereat for the Province of Palawan and the City of Puerto Princesa, with seats at Puerto Princesa City, Roxas, Brooke's Point, and Coron;

"Thirteen branches with seats thereat for the Province of Quezon and the City of Lucena, with seats at Lucena City, Gumaca, Calauag, Mauban, and Infanta;

"Two branches for the Province of Aurora, with seats at Baler;

"Fourteen branches with seats thereat for the Province of Rizal, except the cities and municipalities embraced within the National Capital Judicial Region, with seats at Binangonan, Antipolo, San Mateo, Morong, and Tanay; and

"Two branches with seats thereat for the Province of Romblon, with seats at Romblon and Odiongan."

SEC. 6. Section 14, paragraph (f), of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as the Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1981, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(f) Sixty-five Regional Trial Judges shall be commissioned for the Fifth Judicial Region. There shall be:

"Eighteen branches with seats thereat for the Province of Albay and the City of Legaspi, with seats at Legaspi City, Ligao, and Tabaco;

"Twenty-seven branches with seats thereat for the Province of Camarines Sur and the Cities of Naga and Iriga, with seats at Naga City, Libmanan, Tigaon, San Jose, Pili, Iriga City, Buhi, Nabua, Sipocot, Ragay, and Calabanga;

"Five branches with seats thereat for the Province of Camarines Norte, with seats at Daet and Labo;

"Two branches for the Province of Catanduanes, with seats at Virac;

"Seven branches with seats thereat for the Province of Masbate, with seats at Masbate, Claveria, Cataingan, and San Jacinto; and

"Six branches with seats thereat for the Province of Sorsogon, with seats at Sorsogon, Gubat, Irosin, and Bulan."

SEC. 7. Section 14, paragraph (g), of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as the Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1981, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(g) Sixty-nine Regional Trial Judges shall be commissioned for the Sixth Judicial Region. There shall be:

"Nine branches with seats thereat for the Province of Aklan, with seats at Kalibo;

"Five branches with seats thereat for the Province of Antique, with seats at San Jose, Culasi, and Bugasong;

"Eight branches with seats thereat for the Province of Capiz and the City of Roxas, with seats at Roxas City and Mambusao;

"Twenty-two branches with seats thereat for the Province of Iloilo, the Subprovince of Guimaras, and the City of Iloilo, with seats at Iloilo City, Barotac Viejo, Guimbal, and Dumangas; and

"Twenty-five branches with seats thereat for the Province of Negros Occidental and the Cities of Bacolod, Bago, Cadiz, La Carlota, San Carlos and Silay, with seats at Silay City, Bacolod City, Himamaylan, San Carlos City, Cadiz City, Kabankalan, Bago City, La Carlota City, and Sipalay."