

[Act No. 3627, December 05, 1929]

AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-THREE, ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FOUR, ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SIX, AND ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-ONE OF THE REVISED ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, AS AMENDED, SECTION THREE OF ACT NUMBERED TWENTY-NINE HUNDRED AND FORTY-ONE, AS AMENDED AND SECTION THREE OF ACT NUMBERED THIRTY-ONE HUNDRED AND SEVEN, AS AMENDED; CREATING THE TWENTY-NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT; CREATING NEW BRANCHES OF THE COURT OF FIRST INSTANCE IN SEVERAL JUDICIAL DISTRICTS; CHANGING THE DATES OF THE TERMS OF COURT IN CERTAIN PLACES; READJUSTING THE SALARIES OF THE JUDGES OF FIRST INSTANCE, THE CLERKS AND DEPUTY CLERKS OF COURTS OF FIRST INSTANCE; PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL SUBORDINATE PERSONNEL FOR SAID COURTS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Legislature assembled and by the authority of the same:

SECTION 1. Section one hundred and fifty-three of the Revised Administrative Code, as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 153. *Judicial districts.*—Judicial districts for Courts of First Instance in the Philippine Islands are constituted as follows:

"The First Judicial District shall consist of the Province of Cagayan and the Province of Batanes.

"The Second Judicial District, of the Province of Isabela and the Province of Nueva Vizcaya.

"The Third Judicial District, of the Province of Iloeos Sur, the Province of Abra, and the Province of Ilocos Norte.

"The Fourth Judicial District, of the Province of La Union and the Mountain Province.

"The Fifth Judicial District, of the Province of Pangasinan.

"The Sixth Judicial District, of the Province of Tarlac and the Province of Nueva Ecija.

"The Seventh" Judicial District, of the Province of Pampanga and the Province of Bulacan.

"The Eighth Judicial District, of the Province of Bataan and the Province of Zambales.

"The Ninth Judicial District, of the City of Manila.

"The Tenth Judicial District, of the Province of Cavite.

"The Eleventh Judicial District, of the Province of Rizal.

"The Twelfth Judicial District, of the Province of Laguna.

"The Thirteenth Judicial District, of the Province of Batangas and the Province of Mindoro.

"The Fourteenth Judicial District, of the Province of Tayabas and the Province of Marinduque.

"The Fifteenth Judicial District, of the Province of Gamarines Sur, the Province of Camarines Norte, and the Province of Albay, including the Subprovince of Catanduanes.

"The Sixteenth Judicial District, of the Province of Sorsogon and the Province of Masbate.

"The Seventeenth Judicial District, of the Province of Capiz and the Province of Romblon.

"The Eighteenth Judicial District, of the Province of Samar.

"The Nineteenth Judicial District, of the Province of Leyte.

"The Twentieth Judicial District, of the Province of Cebu.

"The Twenty-first Judicial District, of the Province of Oriental Negros, the Province of Lanao, and the Subprovince of Siquijor.

"The Twenty-second Judicial District, of the Province of Occidental Negros.

"The Twenty-third Judicial District, of the Province of Iloilo.

"The Twenty-fourth Judicial District, of the Province of Surigao and the Province of Agusan.

"The Twenty-fifth Judicial District, of the Province Oriental Misamis and the Province of Bukidnon.

"The Twenty-sixth Judicial District, of the Province Zamboanga and the Province of Sulu.

"The Twenty-seventh Judicial District, of the Davao and the Province of Cotabato.

"The Twenty-eighth Judicial District, of the Province of Bohol and the Province of Occidental Misamis.

"The Twenty-ninth Judicial District, of the Province of Antique and the Province of Palawan."

SEC. 2. Section one hundred and fifty-four of the Revised Administrative Code, as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 154. *Judges of first instance for judicial districts.*—One judge of first instance shall be commissioned for each judicial district, except the third, fifth, sixth, seventh, ninth, eleventh, fourteenth, fifteenth, nineteenth, twentieth, twenty-second, and twenty-third.

"For the Third Judicial District there shall be two judges, one of whom shall preside over the Court of First Instance of the Province of Ilocos Norte and the other over those of the Provinces of Ilocos Sur and Abra.

"For the Fifth Judicial District there shall be two judges who shall be known as judges of the first and second branch, respectively.

"For the Sixth Judicial District there shall be three judges, two of whom shall preside over the Court of First Instance of the Province of Nueva Ecija and who shall be known as judges of the first and second branch, respectively, and the other over that of the Province of Tarlac.

"For the Seventh Judicial District there shall be two judges, one of whom shall preside over the Court of First Instance of the Province of Pampanga and the other over that of the Province of Bulacan.

"For the Ninth Judicial District there shall be seven judges who shall be known as judges of the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh branch, respectively.

"For the Eleventh Judicial District there shall be two judges who shall be known as judges of the first and second branch, respectively.

"For the Fourteenth Judicial District there shall be two judges who shall be known as judges of the first and second branch, respectively.

"For the Fifteenth Judicial District there shall be two judges, one of whom shall preside over the courts of first instance of the Provinces of Camarines Norte and Camarines Sur, and the other over those of the Province of Albay and the Subprovince of Catanduanes.

"For the Nineteenth Judicial District there shall be two judges who shall be known as judges of said district.

"For the Twentieth Judicial District there shall be two judges who shall be known as judges of the first and second branch, respectively.

"For the Twenty-second Judicial District there shall be two judges who shall be known as judges of the first and second branch, respectively.

"For the Twenty-third Judicial District there shall be two judges who shall be known as judges of the first and second branch, respectively.

"For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this section, a new judge shall be appointed for the Third Judicial District, to preside over the Courts of First Instance of Ilocos Sur and Abra; another judge shall be appointed for the Fifth Judicial District and shall be known as judge of the second branch of said court; another judge shall be appointed for the Sixth Judicial District, to preside over the Court of First Instance of Nueva Ecija; another judge shall be appointed for the Sixth Judicial District and shall be known as judge of the second branch of the Court of First Instance of Nueva Ecija; another judge shall be appointed for the Seventh Judicial District, to preside over the Court of First Instance of the Province of Pampanga; two other judges shall be appointed for the Ninth Judicial District and shall be known as judges of the fifth and sixth

branch, respectively; another judge shall be appointed for the Ninth Judicial District and shall be known as judge of the seventh branch of said court; another judge shall be appointed for the Eleventh Judicial District and shall be known as judge of the second branch of said court; another judge shall be appointed for the Fourteenth Judicial District and shall be known as judge of the second branch of said court; another judge shall be appointed for the Fifteenth Judicial District, to preside over the Court of First Instance of the Province of Albay and the Subprovince of Catanduanes; another judge shall be appointed for the Nineteenth Judicial District to preside over the Court of First Instance at Maasin, Leyte; another judge shall be appointed for the Twentieth Judicial District and shall be known as judge of the second branch of said court; another judge shall be appointed for the Twenty-second Judicial District and shall be known as judge of the second branch of said court; another judge shall be appointed for the Twenty-third Judicial District and shall be known as judge of the second branch of said court; and another judge shall be appointed for the Twenty-ninth Judicial District. In provinces with more than one branch, the business of the court shall be distributed equitably among the judges of first instance of such branches, as said judges may agree between themselves. In case of disagreement, the Secretary of Justice shall decide, and said Secretary shall be empowered to promulgate rules for the purpose of preventing conflicts between the several branches."

SEC. 3. Section one hundred and fifty-six of the Revised Administrative Code, as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 156. *Permanent stations of judges of first instance.*—The permanent station of judges of the Ninth Judicial District shall be in the City of Manila. In districts comprising only one province, the permanent official station of the judge shall be at the capital of the province.

"In other judicial districts, the permanent stations' of the judges shall be as follows:

"For the First District, in the municipality of Tuguegarao, Province of Cagayan.

"For the Second District, in the municipality of Ilagan, Province of Isabela.

"For the Third District, one judge shall be stationed in the municipality of Vigan, Province of Ilocos Sur, and the other in the municipality of Laoag, Province of Ilocos, Norte.

"For the Fourth District, in the municipality of San Fernando, Province of La Union, Province of Cagayan, on the first Tuesday of June and January of each year; at Santo Domingo de Basco, Province of Batanes, on the first Tuesday of March of each year.

"Second District: At Ilagan, Province of Isabela, on the first Tuesday of February and July of each year; at Bayombong, Province of Nueva Vizcaya, on the second Tuesday of January and June of each year.