H. No. 4491; 109 OG No. 8, 954 (February 25, 2013); Philippine Star, November 21, 2012

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10301, November 15, 2012]

AN ACT CREATING FOUR (4) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE NINTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED AT ZAMBOANGA CITY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14, PARAGRAPH (J) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Four (4) additional branches of the Regional Trial Court to be stationed at Zamboanga City are hereby created in the Ninth Judicial Region.

The Supreme Court shall assign the branch number of the newly-created branches of the Regional Trial Court in the Ninth Judicial Region.

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 four (4) additional branches of the Regional Trial Court to be stationed at Zamboanga City, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. The funds necessary for the operation of the Court(s) herein created shall be appropriated and released only upon the actual organization of the Court(s) and the appointment of its personnel.

SEC. 3. Section 14(j) 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1980?, as amended, and all other laws, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

(Sgd.) **JUAN PONCE ENRILE** *President of the Senate* (Sgd.) **FELICIANO BELMONTE JR.** Speaker of the House of Representatives

This Act which originated in the House of Representatives was finally passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on August 28, 2012 and July 24, 2012, respectively.