

Republic of the Philippines  
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao  
**BANGSAMORO TRANSITION AUTHORITY**  
Cotabato City

Second Parliament  
*Second Regular Session*

Proposed Resolution No. 298



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Authored by:

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**RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE JUDICIAL AND BAR COUNCIL (JBC) TO EXTEND THE DEADLINE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE JUDGESHIP POSITIONS IN REGIONS IX TO XII FOR MUSLIM APPLICANTS TO 04 AUGUST 2023**

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**WHEREAS**, Section 6, Article VIII of the 1987 Constitution mandates that the Supreme Court shall have administrative supervision over all courts and the personnel thereof;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 8, paragraph 5, Article XIII of the Constitution, the authority to recommend appointees to the Judiciary is vested in the Judicial and Bar Council (JBC);

**WHEREAS**, the JBC announced the opening for the application or recommendation for the judgeship positions in Regions IX to XII on 19 May 2023 and set the deadline for the submission of applications and documentary requirements on 04 July 2023;

**WHEREAS**, the period for the submission of applications and documentary requirements for the judgeship positions coincides with this year's *Hajj*, which begins on 19 June 2023 and ends on 18 July 2023;

**WHEREAS**, the *Hajj* or pilgrimage to the Holy Land of Mecca in Saudi Arabia is one of the five pillars of Islam and every Muslim is obliged to perform it at least once in their lifetime, provided they are in good physical and financial health;

**WHEREAS**, Filipino Muslims performing the *Hajj* will have to stay in the holy land for approximately a month to complete the pilgrimage with a series of rites and rituals;

**WHEREAS**, qualified and interested Muslim applicants who are performing the *Hajj* this year will have no opportunity to apply for the current judgeship positions since the period for the submission of applications and documentary requirements is only until 04 July 2023;

**WHEREAS**, Rule 1, Section 7 of the *2020 Revised JBC Rules* provides that the JBC may shorten or extend the application period for justifiable reasons. However, the extensions shall in no case exceed thirty (30) calendar days, which shall be reckoned from the original prescribed deadline;

**WHEREAS**, Philippine society venerates religious practice and the Supreme Court has consistently affirmed that freedom of religion or belief occupies a preferred position in the hierarchy of values;

**WHEREAS**, Filipino Muslims who have expressed interest in applying for judgeship positions in Regions IX to XII are respectfully requesting the



extension of the deadline for the submission of applications and documentary requirements to 04 August 2023 to allow them ample time to comply with the same after their successful completion of this year's *Hajj*;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it

**RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved by the Bangsamoro Transition Authority Parliament, to respectfully request the Judicial and Bar Council (JBC) to extend the deadline for the submission of applications and documentary requirements for the judgeship positions in Regions IX to XII to Muslim applicants to 04 August 2023;

**RESOLVED, FURTHER**, that a copy of this resolution be submitted to the Judicial and Bar Council (JBC) for its consideration.

Adopted on this \_\_\_\_ day of June 2023 at \_\_\_\_\_, Cotabato City.

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