



SECOND REGULAR SESSION

RESOLUTION NO. 352

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 AUGUST 4, 2023

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 paragraph 5, Section 8, Article VIII of the 1987 Constitution, the authority to recommend appointees to the Judiciary is vested in the Judicial and Bar Council (JBC);

WHEREAS, the JBC on May 19, 2023 announced the opening for the application or recommendation for the judgeship positions in Regions IX to XII and set the deadline for the submission of applications and documentary requirements on July 4, 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 June 19, 2023 and ends on July 18, 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 July 4, 2023;

WHEREAS, Section 7, Rule 1 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, the 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 August 4, 2023, to give 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, 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 for Muslim applicants to August 4, 2023.

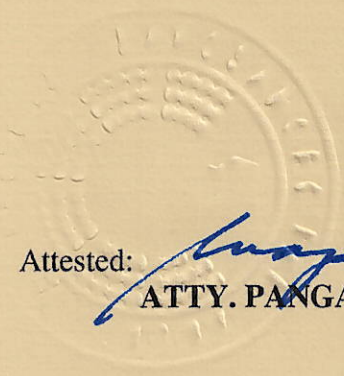
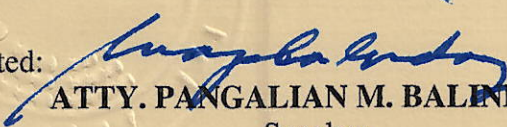
RESOLVED, FURTHER, To forward the foregoing Resolution to the Judicial and Bar Council (JBC) for its consideration.

ADOPTED, *Dhul Hijjah* 04, 1444/June 22, 2023.

Certified Correct:


PROF. RABY B. ANGKAL
Secretary General

Attested:



ATTY. PANGALIAN M. BALENDONG
Speaker

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