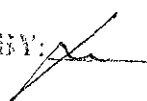


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SENATE

S.B. No. 2804

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Panfilo M. Lacson

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Constitution states:

"The state shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them."

Corrorarily thereto, the Philippines is also a party to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Alma Conference Declaration of 1978 which recognize health as a fundamental human right. Health is defined as the state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.¹

As such, the delivery of effective and affordable medical care and services to the people is a primordial responsibility of the government.

The 2nd District of Antipolo City is home to more than a third of a million people. Like the constituents of most urban areas and other cities in the country, a large majority of the district's population consists of minimum wage earners and those barely coming out of the poverty line. Their health and physical well-being, whenever needing immediate and critical medical attention, are limitedly dependent on the services of two (2) privately-owned hospitals located within the district.

Given the private character of these hospitals and the prohibitive costs of their services, many of the less fortunate segments of the district's population can hardly afford them. Worse, many of those suffering from life threatening conditions expire helplessly because of their inability to receive needed medical intervention for financial reasons. In many emergency situations where time and immediate treatment are critical, victims of accidents lose their lives because the nearest medical facility is way beyond reach. This predicament miserably falls short of the intent and purpose of Article XIII, Section 11 of the 1987 Constitution, to wit:

"The state shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the underprivileged sick, elderly, disabled, women

¹ The 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines: A Commentary-Fr. Joaquin Bernas, 2003 edition, page. 1220

and children. The state shall endeavor to provide free medical care to paupers.”(underscoring supplied)

The establishment of a primary hospital within the district is aimed at easing the plight of indigent constituents of the district when seeking affordable and quality medical care. It is also envisioned to provide them with a medical facility within accessible distance equipped with the basic life-saving equipment and professional expertise.

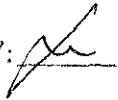
Thus, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


Panfilo M. Lacson
Senator

'11 MAY -9 AIO :48

SENATE

S.B. No. 2804

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Panfilo M. Lacson

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A THIRTY (30) – BED HOSPITAL IN THE SECOND DISTRICT
OF ANTIPOLO CITY, TO BE KNOWN AS THE ANTIPOLO 2ND DISTRICT
HOSPITAL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SEC. 1. There shall be established a thirty (30)-bed hospital in the Second District of Antipolo City, under the supervision of the Department of Health, to be known as the Antipolo 2nd District Hospital.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of Health and/or his duly authorized representative, in consultation and coordination with the concerned officials of the City Government of Antipolo, shall formulate and promulgate the implementing guidelines, rules and regulations necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Health shall immediately include in the Department's programs the operationalization of the Antipolo 2nd District Hospital, the funding of which shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

For purposes of this Act, the term "Operationalization" shall include the acquisition of the Land on which the hospital will be established, the construction of the building and other complementary infrastructures and facilities, hospital equipment, as well as the costs for maintenance and personal services.

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

Approved,