

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session

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SENATE S.B. **2481**

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Introduced by Senator Poe

AN ACT

TO IMPROVE THE FACILITIES OF NORTHERN MINDANAO MEDICAL CENTER, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7938, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Explanatory Note

This bill was originally filed in the fourth Congress and was again re-filed in the Fifteenth Congress as House Bill No. 52. During the Fifteenth Congress, this bill was approved by the Committee on Health and the Committee on Appropriations. It was subsequently approved by the House of Representatives on August 6. 2012 and transmitted to the Senate on August 16, 2012 where it was not acted upon.

The Constitution states that it is policy of the State to protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them. Further, it is mandated that the State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social service available to all the people at affordable cost. More importantly, there shall be priority for the needs of the underprivileged sick, elderly, disabled, women and children.

Northern Mindanao Medical Center (NMMC) is a government hospital with a 300-bed capacity. It has been in existence for 90 years and has achieved great accomplishments in terms of infrastructure projects, procurement of hospital facilities, training and development of medical officers and personnel.

NMMC withstood its loyalty in providing a healthy environment not only to the people of Cagayan de Oro City but also to the entire region. In fact, since 2003, it has been admitting patients beyond its bed capacity. At present it serves around 600 patients a day. Hence, to further enhance its capacity of promoting public health and to cater medical assistance to indigent patients, there is need to increase its bed capacity from 300 to 600.

In view thereof immediate approval of this Bill is sought.

GRACE POE



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

SECTION 1. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 7938 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2. The hospital facilities of the Northern Mindanao Medical Center shall be upgraded and increased, consistent with the requirements of modern medical technology and its status as a medical center. Accordingly, its bed capacity shall be increased from [two hundred (200) to] three hundred (300) beds **TO SIX HUNDRED (600) BEDS.**"

SECTION 2. Section 3 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 3. The number of medical personnel, PERSONNEL SERVICES AND MAINTENANCE AND OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES of the Northern Mindanao Medical Center shall correspondingly be increased. THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, IN **COORDINATION** WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT, SHALL DETERMINE ADDITIONAL PLANTILLA POSITIONS THE ТО BE CREATED PURSUANT TO THIS ACT."

SECTION 3. There is hereby added a new Section 4 to read as follows:

"SEC. 4. THE INCREASE IN BED CAPACITY OF THE NORTHERN MINDANAO MEDICAL CETER FROM THREE HUNDRED (300) TO SIX HUNDRED (600) BEDS SHALL BE IMPLEMENTED FOR A PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN THREE (3) YEARS FROM THE APPROVAL OF THIS ACT."

SECTION 4. Section 4 of the same Act is hereby numbered as Section 5 and amended to read as follows:

"SEC [4]5. [The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.] THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH SHALL IMMEDIATELY INCLUDE IN THE DEPARTMENT'S PROGRAMS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT, THE FUNDING OF WHICH SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT."

37 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two
38 (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

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