

13th CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

'04 JUN 30 P11:20

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

S. No. 1156

Introduced by Senator Aquilino Q. Pimentel, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The most important role of hospitals and health institutions is to provide adequate and competent medical services to the people. The reality however, is that it is difficult to secure medical services from big private hospitals that often charge medical fees that the ordinary Filipino cannot afford, leaving him no other option but to rely on the medical services provided by government hospitals. This is especially true with patients afflicted with cancer, serious skin diseases and those in need of surgery where the medical procedure required involves a great amount of money. Sadly, perennial budgetary problems plague government hospitals and prevent them from filling this great void in the Filipinos' health care needs.

The Jose R. Reyes Memorial Medical Center (JRRMMC) is the flagship hospital of the Department of Health (DOH). Through the years, JRRMMC has tried to provide the public with affordable premium health care services. It caters not only to patients from Metro Manila, but also to patients referred by other medical institutions from various provinces.

Statistics show that the daily admission of JRRMMC for emergency consultation and treatment, medical cases involving cancer causing diseases and dermatology related problems, have increased through the years. JRRMMC has efficiently responded to this call despite its limited resources. However, the steady growth of medical cases, particularly in the fields of trauma, cancer and dermatology, necessitates the need for the government to review JRRMMC's policies.

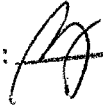
There is an imperative need to upgrade the status of the JRRMMC to a national medical center for trauma, cancer and dermatology of the Department of Health. To realize this goal, the improvement of this premier government hospital is necessary. This bill aims to provide the JRRMMC two new buildings for its patients, increase its bed capacity, and equip it with state-of-the-art laboratory facilities.

This legislation aims to create a more responsive health institution that will address the pressing medical needs of the people, more particularly the poor and the marginalized of society. The immediate passage of this bill is therefore requested.


AQUILINO Q. PIMENTEL, JR.

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AN ACT
UPGRADING THE JOSE R. REYES MEMORIAL MEDICAL
CENTER (JRRMMC) INTO A DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH)
NATIONAL CENTER FOR TRAUMA, CANCER AND
DERMATOLOGY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. The Jose R. Reyes Memorial Medical Center (JRRMMC), hereinafter referred to as the Center, located along Rizal Avenue in Manila, shall be upgraded into a Department of Health National Center for trauma, cancer and dermatology.

SECTION 2. To enable the Center to effectively carry out its functions as a national center for trauma, cancer and dermatology, a modern twelve-story main building with a heliport for emergency operations shall be constructed within the JRRMMC compound.

SECTION 3. The Center, manned by an adequate number of competent personnel, shall be equipped with modern facilities to be housed in the main building, particularized as follows:

- (a) A one thousand five hundred (1,500) bed capacity for in-patients.
- (b) Emergency facilities for at least seven hundred (700) cases per day.
- (c) Fully-equipped special care units such as, but not limited to, the Medical Intensive Care Unit (MICU), the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU), Neonatal

Intensive Care Unit (NICU), Surgical Intensive Care Unit (SICU) and the Burns, Stroke, Spine, Renal and Pulmonary Care Units.

- (d) State-of-the-art diagnostic and therapeutic equipment and modalities.
- (e) Modern training and research laboratory facilities.
- (f) Complete sectionalized laboratory and blood banking system.
- (g) Computer-based Integrated Hospital Information System.
- (h) Other facilities and amenities necessary for a premier teaching-training medical center.

SECTION 4. A four-story complex shall also be constructed within the JRRMMC compound to house service facilities with departmentalized clinics for two thousand out-patients.

SECTION 5. The execution of the project plan for the physical plant of the Center shall be undertaken by the Department of Health (DOH) in consultation with the Department of Public Works and Highways.

SECTION 6. Such amounts as may be necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be taken from the budget of the Department of Health for Fiscal-Year 2005. Thereafter, the budgetary requirement for the Center's operation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 7. All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,