

16 JUL 19 P2:31

SENATE

S. No. 528

RECEIVED

Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL CANCER CENTER TO BE KNOWN AS THE
PHILIPPINE NATIONAL CANCER CENTER AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFORE

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In the country, cancer ranks as the third leading cause of mortality, claiming 103 lives a day or four persons every hour. The estimated incidence rate is 189 persons per 100,000 Filipinos. Despite this fact, there is no specialized care for all cancer sites in the Philippines.

Although there are several specialized hospitals with complete facilities for cancer patients, the same are concentrated or centralized in Metro Manila, primarily catering the needs of cancer patients in the National Capital Region, which is one of the areas with the highest cases of cancer. However, the cancer incidents are not only prevalent in NCR. Admittedly, many regions in the country do not have cancer hospitals with sufficient equipment and facilities to cater the needs of patients suffering from cancer.

The establishment and maintenance of the cancer center would primarily benefit the people suffering from cancer, and would further enhance the noble undertaking of research in cancer, provide a state of the art training of medical and technical personnel and render specialized medical services for the prevention, control and treatment of cancer.

Thus, this bill seeks to establish a national cancer center in the Province of Pampanga to be known as Philippine National Cancer Center. It is imperative to decentralize the hospitals providing services to patients particularly in regions outside Metro Manila. The province of Pampanga is accessible to the patients from other areas with high prevalence of cancer incidents. It is strategically located to provide services and address the cancer cases in the regions with the highest reported cases particularly in Region 3.

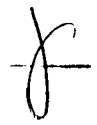
In light of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV
Senator

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

1 **SECTION 1. *Establishment.*** - There shall be established, under the supervision of
2 the Department of Health (DOH), a Philippine National Cancer Center in the Province of
3 Pampanga, herein referred to as Cancer Center.
4

5 The Cancer Center shall be administered by a Board of Trustees, composed of seven
6 (7) members, to be appointed by the President of the Philippines upon the recommendation of
7 the Department of Health.
8

9 The members of the Board of Trustees shall serve for a period of four (4) years and
10 until their successors shall have been appointed and qualified. Any vacancy in the Board shall
11 be filled by appointment by the President of the Philippines, upon the recommendation of the
12 Department of Health, and the appointee shall serve for the unexpired term.
13

14 **SEC. 2. *Board of Trustees.*** - The Board of Trustees, as provided for in the preceding
15 section, shall have the following powers and functions:
16

- 17 1. To elect a Chairman from among them, who shall be the presiding officer of the
18 Board of Trustees;
- 19 2. To appoint a Director of the Cancer Center who shall serve as Vice-Chairman of
20 the Board;
- 21 3. To formulate policies and adopt measures which are necessary to carry out the
22 provisions of this act;
- 23 4. To prescribe, amend, and repeal its by-laws, rules and regulations governing the
24 manner in which the general business of the Cancer Center may be conducted
25 and its power exercised; and
26
27
28
29

1 5. To perform such other functions as maybe necessary to achieve the objectives of
2 this Act.
3

4 The four (4) members of the Board of Trustees shall constitute a quorum and may
5 transact business. Any decision of such four members on any matter duly presented to the
6 Board of Trustees, shall constitute a valid and binding act of the Cancer Center.

7 **SEC. 3. Director of the Cancer Center.** - The Cancer Center shall have a director
8 who shall be its chief executive officer. The director shall have the following powers and
9 functions:

- 10 1. To appoint, remove, and fix the compensation of the personnel thereof, subject to the
11 approval of the Board of Trustees;
- 12 2. To prepare the agenda for the meeting of the Board and to submit for the
13 consideration of the Board, policies and other important measures;
- 14 3. To execute and administer the policies and measures approved by the Board; and
15 4. To direct and supervise the internal operations and administration of the Cancer
16 Center.
17 20

21 **SEC. 4. Government Contributions.** - The Government shall contribute the necessary
22 land, building, equipment and facilities to the Cancer Center.
23 24

25 **SEC. 5. Property of the Center.** - The Property of the Cancer Center shall consist of
26 such real, personal, mixed, and other type of property, now owned or reserved for, or may
27 hereafter be given, donated, acquired, transferred or conveyed to the Cancer Center by the
28 Philippine Government, its branches and instrumentalities, any foreign government, as well
29 as by trust, foundations, corporations, or persons, alien or domestic, in order to carry out its
30 purposes and objectives as set forth herein.
31

32 **SEC. 6. Purposes and Objectives.** - The purposes and objectives of the Cancer Center
33 are:
34

- 35 1. To construct, establish, operate and maintain a cancer center for the public welfare,
36 including a specialized cancer hospital;
- 37 2. To create awareness of cancer prevention, control and treatment in the general public,
38 through film showings, lectures, congresses, conventions, seminars, and conferences;
- 39 3. To promote, encourage, engage and assist in scientific research on the prevention,
40 control and treatment of cancer;
- 41 4. To create cancer control programs through the collection and recording of facts about
42 cancer incidence, and other data;
- 43 44 5. To gather, compile, and publish the findings of scientific researches for public
44 dissemination;
45 46
46 47 48 49

- 1 6. To facilitate and encourage the dissemination and exchange of ideas and information
2 on the prevention, treatment and control of cancer, to arouse, enhance and develop
3 public interest on cancer consciousness or awareness;
4
- 5 7. To develop or support patient care programs and other programs that would provide
6 pain relief and psycho-social support for the terminally-ill cancer patient and his
7 family;
8
- 9 8. To encourage and/or undertake the training of physicians, nurses, medical technicians,
10 health officers and social workers on the practical and scientific conduct and
11 implementation of cancer services, and related activities;
12
- 13 9. To encourage the formation of other organization on the national, provincial, city,
14 municipal or barangay level and to coordinate their various efforts and activities for
15 the purpose of achieving a more effective programmatic approach on the common
16 problems relative to the objectives herein enumerated; and
17
- 18 10. To extend medical services to the general public, to help prevent, relieve or alleviate
19 the innumerable afflictions and maladies of the people specially the poor and less
20 fortunate it life, without regard to race, creed, color or political belief.
21

22 **SEC. 7. Powers of the Cancer Center.** - For the attainment and/or furtherance of the
23 above purposes and objectives, the Cancer Center, as a body corporate, acting through its
24 Board of Trustees, shall have all the powers pertaining to a juridical person, and is therefore
25 authorized, among other things:
26

- 27 1. To acquire and hold in any property of whatever nature or description, and to dispose
28 of such property under any mode of encumbrance or conveyance;
29
- 30 2. To contract and be contracted with;
31
- 32 3. To mortgage, lease, sell, transfer, convey or otherwise dispose of its properties;
33
- 34 4. To solicit and receive donations, endowments and funds in the form of contributions,
35 whether in cash or in kind, from both the public and private sectors;
36
- 37 5. To open such accounts in banks and other financial institutions, and to disburse such
38 funds or invest the same as the Board may direct to accomplish or advance the
39 purposes or interest of the Cancer Center;
40
- 41 6. To send the personnel of the Cancer Center to research or medical institutes or
42 universities for advance training or observation and to attend international or regional
43 conventions, conferences, congresses, and seminars as the Board may deem necessary
44 to accomplish the purposes and objectives of the Cancer Center;
45
- 46 7. To adopt a set of by-laws, rules and regulations not inconsistent with law and the
47 provisions hereof to govern the administration and operation of the affairs of the
48 Cancer Center;
49

- 1 8. To develop or support patient care programs and other programs that would provide
2 pain relief and psycho-social support for the terminally-ill cancer patient and his
3 family; and
4
5 9. To do all such other acts and things as are or may be necessary or incidental for the
6 accomplishment of the purposes and objectives of the Cancer Center.
7

8 **SEC. 8. Tax Exemptions.** - All donations, contributions or endowment that may be
9 made by entities or persons to the Cancer Center shall be exempt from income and gift taxes.

10 The Cancer Center shall be exempt from the payment of all taxes, charges and fee
11 imposed by the Government or any political subdivision or instrumentality thereof.
12

13 **SEC. 9. Assistance from government offices.** - The Cancer Center may call upon any
14 department, bureau, office, agency or instrumentality of the Government, including
15 government-owned or controlled corporations, for such assistance as it may need in the
16 pursuit of its purposes and objectives.
17

18 **SEC. 10. Appropriations.** - The amount of eight hundred million (P800,000,000.00)
19 for the structure equipment and initial operation and maintenance of the Cancer Center shall
20 be charged to the appropriations for the Department of Health. Thereafter, such funds as may
21 be necessary for the continued operation and maintenance of the Cancer Center shall be
22 included in the Genera Appropriations Act.
23

24 **SEC. 11. Auditing.** - The books and accounts of the Cancer Center shall be subject to
25 periodic auditing by the duly authorized representative of the Commission on Audit.
26

27 **SEC. 12. Annual Report.** - The Cancer Center shall render to the Department of
28 Health and annual report of its activities, accomplishments and recommendations.
29

30 **SEC. 13. Effect of Dissolution of the Cancer Center.** - If for any reason, the Cancer
31 Center is dissolved, its assets and properties remaining at the time of dissolution, shall revert
32 to the Philippine Government for disposition in accordance with law.
33

34 **SEC. 14. Repealing Clause.** - Any laws, decrees, ordinances or rules and regulations
35 which are inconsistent with or contrary to the provision of this Act is hereby amended or
36 repealed.
37

38 **SEC. 15. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its
39 publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,