

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

SENATE



Senate
Office of the Secretary

Senate Bill No. 640

'19 JUL 22 A9:10

Introduced by Senator FRANCIS N. PANGILINAN

RECEIVED BY

AN ACT

INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE BICOL MEDICAL CENTER FROM FIVE HUNDRED (500) BEDS TO ONE THOUSAND (1,000) BEDS, UPGRADING ITS SERVICE FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS MEDICAL WORKFORCE COMPLEMENT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8053, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Bicol Medical Center (BMC) previously known as the Bicol Regional Training and Teaching Hospital (BRTTH) in Naga City is Bicol region's premier medical center. It provides tertiary health care services and world class training and research.

BMC was established in 1933 and was rebuilt under the Philippine Rehabilitation Act of 1946. It started from a 25-bed capacity to 75-bed capacity in 1949 to 100 beds (1959), 150 beds (1961), 200 beds (1975), 250 beds (1979), and 500 beds (1998). Its present 500-bed capacity, however, is inadequate for its daily average of 850 patients requiring hospital care.

This bill seeks to increase BMC's bed capacity from 500 to 1,000 and to correspondingly upgrade its service facilities and professional health care. This will allow BMC to implement its policy of providing the highest standard of health care for its patients.

Hence, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

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

1 **SECTION 1.** The authorized bed capacity of the Bicol Medical Center (BMC) is
2 hereby increased from five hundred (500) to one thousand (1,000) beds. The Secretary of
3 Health shall implement the increase in bed capacity of the BMC consistent with the 5-
4 year development plan of the hospital.

5 **SEC. 2.** The existing hospital facilities and professional health care services of the
6 BMC are also hereby upgraded and increased to conform with and be commensurate to
7 the bed capacity increase as provided for in Section 1 hereof.

8 **SEC. 3.** Upon consultation with the management of the BMC, the Secretary of
9 Health shall, in coordination with the Secretary of Budget and Management and the
10 Chairperson of the Civil Service Commission, determine the additional plantilla positions
11 to be created and filled up in the workforce of the BMC.

12 **SEC. 4. Appropriation.** - The Secretary of Health shall immediately include in the
13 Department's programs the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be
14 included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

15 **SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.*** – Republic Act No. 8053, otherwise known as “An Act
16 Converting the Bicol Regional Training and Teaching Hospital into Bicol Medical Center,
17 Defining its Functions, Responsibilities, Powers and Authority, and Appropriating Funds
18 Therefor” is hereby amended accordingly. All laws, executive orders, issuances, rules and
19 regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

20 **SEC. 7. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
21 in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,