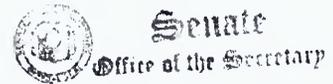
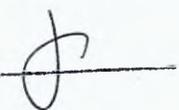


**NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)**



22 JUL -7 P2 :09

**SENATE
S.B. No. 80**

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Sen. Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

**AN ACT
ESTABLISHING REGIONAL BRANCHES OF SPECIALTY HOSPITALS
SUCH AS THE PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER, NATIONAL KIDNEY
AND TRANSPLANT INSTITUTE, LUNG CENTER OF THE
PHILIPPINES, PHILIPPINE CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER AND
PHILIPPINE CANCER CENTER, APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Currently, specialty hospitals such as the Philippine Heart Center, the National Kidney and Transplant Institute, the Lung Center of the Philippines, the Philippine Children's Medical Center, and the soon to be established Philippine Cancer Center are all located in Metro Manila. Offering affordable and quality health care, these hospitals are some of the best in the country, and are the first choice for many Filipinos, who cannot afford health care from private hospitals.

But given their distance, people from our provinces have always faced additional challenges whenever they seek medical attention from these specialty hospitals. On top of their medical bills, they have to think of transportation and accommodation, and the massive costs these would entail. In addition to the costs, due to the volume of patients who seek medical attention from these specialty hospitals, it has become so difficult to get scheduled even for regular check-ups, much more for medical operations or complicated medical procedures.

It has become so prohibitive and cumbersome to seek medical attention from our existing specialty hospitals that many of our *kababayans* simply chose not to seek medical attention at all. Sadly, many of them die due to lack of access to the medical services that these specialty hospitals provide.

This bill will bring these specialty hospitals closer to the people in the provinces and the countryside. This will level the playing field, so to speak, in terms of affordable, accessible and quality health care facilities. This has been the dream of many of our *kababayans*. This has been my dream for them too!

With the aforementioned reasons, immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

22 JUL -7 P2 :09

SENATE
S.B. No. 80

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Sen. Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING REGIONAL BRANCHES OF SPECIALTY HOSPITALS
SUCH AS THE PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER, NATIONAL KIDNEY
AND TRANSPLANT INSTITUTE, LUNG CENTER OF THE
PHILIPPINES, PHILIPPINE CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER AND
PHILIPPINE CANCER CENTER, APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **SECTION 1. *Short Title*** – This Act shall be known as the "*Regional Specialty*
2 *Hospitals Act of 2022*".

3 **SEC. 2. *Statement of Policy***. – Article II, Section 15 of the Constitution states
4 that: "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill
5 health consciousness among them." Towards this end, it shall be the policy of the State
6 to provide access to affordable and quality healthcare services to Filipinos, including the
7 provision of specialty hospitals in the different regions of the country.

8 **SEC. 3. *Establishment of Regional Specialty Hospitals***. – There shall be
9 branches of the Philippine Heart Center, National Kidney and Transplant Institute, Lung
10 Center of the Philippines, Philippine Children's and Medical Center and Philippine Cancer
11 Center to be established in the different regions of the country. Within three (3) years
12 upon the enactment of this Act, there shall be at least one (1) specialty hospital from the
13 abovementioned specialty hospitals in Northern Luzon, Southern Luzon, Visayas,
14 Northern Mindanao, and Southern Mindanao. The Department of Health shall determine
15 the specialty hospital to be established in the different regions, taking into consideration

1 the prevalent illnesses in the area.

2 **SEC. 4. National Government Share.** – The National Government shall
3 constitute the necessary land, building, equipment and facilities, to the regional branches
4 of the specialty hospital, and shall pay such obligations for real, personal and mixed
5 properties arising from such undertaking under a deferred payment arrangement within
6 five (5) years, at a preferred rate of interest.

7 **SEC. 5. Property of the Regional Specialty Hospital.** – The property of the
8 Regional Specialty Hospital shall consist of such real, personal, mixed, and other type of
9 property, now owned or reserved for, or may hereafter be given, donated, acquired,
10 transferred or conveyed to, the Regional Branch of the Philippine Heart Center, National
11 Kidney and Transplant Institute, Lung Center of the Philippines, Philippine Children’s
12 Medical Center Visayas and Philippine Cancer Center as applicable, by the Philippine
13 Government, its branches and instrumentalities, any foreign government, as well as by
14 trust, foundations, corporations, or persons, alien or domestic, in order to carry out its
15 purposes and objectives as set forth herein.

16 **SEC. 6. Purposes and Objectives.** – The purposes and objectives of the
17 Regional Specialty Hospital are:

- 18 a) To construct, establish, operate and maintain regional branches of specialty
19 hospitals for the public welfare;
- 20 b) To promote, encourage and engage in scientific research on the prevention of heart,
21 kidney, liver, cancer and pulmonary diseases and the care and/or treatment of such
22 diseases and related activities, including sponsorship and conduct of relevant
23 congresses, conventions, seminars, and conferences;
- 24 c) To stimulate and/or underwrite scientific researches on the biological, demographic,
25 social, economic, eugenic, physiological aspects of heart, kidney, liver, cancer and
26 pulmonary disorders and abnormalities and its control; and gather, compile, and
27 publish the findings of such researches for public dissemination;
- 28 d) To facilitate and encourage the dissemination and exchange of ideas and
29 information on the prevention, treatment and control of heart, kidney, liver, cancer
30 and pulmonary diseases, to arouse, enhance and develop public interest on such
31 diseases and arouse consciousness or awareness on general health and physical
32 fitness;

- 1 e) To encourage and/or undertake the training of physicians, nurses, medical
2 technicians, health officers and social workers on the practical and scientific conduct
3 and implementation of heart, kidney, liver, cancer and pulmonary services, and
4 related activities;
- 5 f) To assist universities, hospitals and research institutions in their studies of heart,
6 kidney, liver, cancer and pulmonary anomalies, to encourage advanced training on
7 matters of, or affecting the heart, kidney, liver, cancer and lungs, and related fields
8 and to support educational programs of value to general health;
- 9 g) To encourage the formation of other organizations on the national, provincial, city,
10 municipal or barangay level and to coordinate their various efforts and activities for
11 the purpose of achieving a more effective programmatic approach on the common
12 problems relative to the objectives herein enumerated; and
- 13 h) To extend medical and heart, kidney, liver, cancer and pulmonary services to the
14 general public, to help prevent, relieve or alleviate the innumerable heart, kidney,
15 liver, cancer and pulmonary afflictions and maladies of the people specially the poor
16 and less fortunate in life, without regard to race, creed, color or political belief.

17 **SEC. 7. Governing Board.** – The Governing Board of the Regional Specialty
18 Hospitals shall be the Governing Board of their respective mother units: *Provided*, That
19 the medical director or chief of hospital of the Regional Branch shall be present or invited
20 to the Board meeting whenever matters concerning his/her Regional Branch are in the
21 agenda or for discussion of the Board.

22 **SEC. 8. Tax Exemptions and Privileges.** – All existing tax exemptions and
23 privileges of the Philippine Heart Center, National Kidney and Transplant Institute, Lung
24 Center of the Philippines, Philippine Children’s Hospital and Philippine Cancer Center shall
25 be availed of by their Regional Branches.

26 **SEC. 9. Transportation and Lodging Subsidy for Medical Specialists and**
27 **Experts.** – To encourage the assignment and/or temporary practice of medical specialists
28 and experts in the Regional Branches of Specialty Hospitals, especially during the initial
29 stage of their establishment, the Regional Branches are allowed to provide transportation
30 and lodging subsidy and other necessary subsidies over and above of their salary,
31 professional fee and other emoluments.

1 **SEC. 10. Assistance From Government Offices.** – The Regional Specialty
2 Hospital may call upon any Department, Bureau, Office, agency or instrumentality of the
3 government, including government-owned or controlled corporations, particularly the
4 Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office, for such assistance it may need in the pursuit of
5 its purposes and objectives.

6 **SEC. 11. Government Subsidy and Contributions.** – The amount of Five
7 Billion Pesos (P5,000,000,000) is hereby appropriated as contribution of the National
8 Government for the initial establishment, operations and maintenance of the Regional
9 Specialty Hospitals, for the year 2023. Thereafter, the amount necessary to ensure the
10 continued operations and maintenance of the Regional Specialty Hospitals shall be duly
11 provided for, appropriated and released from the General Appropriations Act. The
12 respective funds therefrom shall be administered by the respective Board of each specialty
13 hospital.

14 **SEC. 12. Annual Report.** – Each Regional Specialty Hospital shall render to their
15 respective mother units, the Department of Health, the President of the Philippines, and
16 the Congress of the Philippines annual reports of its activities, accomplishments, and
17 recommendations.

18 **SEC. 13. Effect of Dissolution of the Regional Specialty Hospital.** – If for
19 any reason, the Regional Specialty Hospital is dissolved, its assets and properties
20 remaining at the time of dissolution, shall revert to the Philippine Government for
21 disposition in accordance with law.

22 **SEC. 14. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – The Secretary of the
23 Department of Health, in consultation with the Medical Director or Chief of Hospital of the
24 respective mother unit of the Specialty Hospital, shall issue such rules, regulations, and
25 other issuances as may be necessary to ensure the effective implementation of the
26 provisions of this Act.

27 **SEC. 15. Separability Clause.** – Any portion or provision of this Act that is
28 declared unconstitutional shall not have the effect of nullifying other portions or provisions
29 hereof as long as such remaining portions can still subsist and be given effect in their
30 entirety.

1 **SEC. 16. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, other
2 issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed or
3 modified accordingly.

4 **SEC. 17. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days
5 following its publication in the official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,