

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



'22 AUG -8 P2 :39

SENATE

S. No. 1103

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

**AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL CANCER CENTER TO BE KNOWN AS THE
NATIONAL CANCER CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Cancer is currently the leading cause of death in the developed world and the second leading cause of death in the developing world including the Philippines. In 2008, approximately 12.7 million cancers were diagnosed, and 7.6 million people died of cancer worldwide. Cancers are accounted for approximately 13% of all deaths each year.

While there are several specialized hospitals with complete facilities for cancer patients in the country, there is no institution mandated to carry out specialized care for all cancer patients. Presently, there is an urgent need to put in place cancer-control health care policies focused on strengthening the health system to cope with projected increases in cancer prevention, detection, treatment and management needs.

This bill proposes the creation of a national cancer center, to be known as the National Cancer Center of the Philippines, that will specialize in cancer treatment, including among others, chemotherapy, radiation and cobalt therapy. It shall be strategically located to provide services and address the medical needs especially of patients coming from areas with high prevalence of cancer cases.

The establishment and maintenance of a cancer center would primarily benefit cancer patients and their families and would further enhance the noble undertaking of cancer research, provide a state-of-the-art training of medical and technical personnel as well as render specialized treatment for the prevention, control and treatment of cancer. It shall also develop programs that would address the prevention and early detection of cancer to lower the risks of developing cancer among the local population. Finally, the creation of the cancer center will be an effective mechanism to attract the best cancer specialists in the country to render service for indigent patients at affordable rates.

Furthermore, this bill also intends to provide financial and material support towards the establishment and maintenance of a cancer center for the welfare and benefit of the Filipino people.

Hence, the passage of this bill is urgently sought.


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

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Senate
Office of the Secretary

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

1 Section 1. *Creation of the National Cancer Center of the Philippines.* - There is
2 hereby created, under the supervision of the Department of Health, the National
3 Cancer Center of the Philippines (NCCP).

4 Sec. 2. *Board of Trustees.* - The National Cancer Center of the Philippines shall
5 be governed and its activities and properties be directed, controlled and managed, by
6 a Board of Trustees, which shall be composed of a Chairman and six (6) members, all
7 of whom to be appointed by the President of the Philippines upon the recommendation
8 of the Department of Health.

9 The members of the Board of Trustees shall serve for a period of four (4) years
10 and until their successors shall have been appointed to fill the vacancy shall hold office
11 for the unexpired term of the member. Whenever a vacancy shall occur in the Board,
12 the person appointed to fill the vacancy shall hold office for the unexpired term of the
13 member.

14 The Board shall elect a Chairman from among themselves, who shall be
15 presiding officer of the Board of Trustees. The Medical Director of the Philippine
16 National Cancer Center shall serve as Vice-Chairman of the Board.

17 Four (4) members of the Board of Trustees shall constitute a quorum to transact
18 business and any decision of such four (4) members on any matter duly presented to

1 the Board of Trustees shall constitute a valid and binding act of the National Cancer
2 Center of the Philippines.

3 Sec. 3. *Government Contribution.* - The Government shall contribute the
4 necessary land, building, equipment and facilities to the National Cancer Center of the
5 Philippines.

6 Sec. 4. *Property of the Center.* - The property of the National Cancer Center of
7 the Philippines shall consist of such real, personal, mixed, and other type of property,
8 now owned or reserved for, or may hereafter be given, donated, acquired, transferred
9 or conveyed to the National Cancer Center of the Philippines by the government, its
10 branches and instrumentalities, any foreign government, as well as by trust,
11 foundations, corporations, or persons, alien or domestic, in order to carry out its
12 purposes and objectives as set forth herein.

13 Sec. 4. *Purposes and Objectives.* - The National Cancer Center of the
14 Philippines shall have the following purposes and objectives:

- 15 (1) To construct, establish, equip, maintain, administer and operate a
16 specialized hospital for diagnosis, treatment, care, rehabilitation and/or
17 relief of cancer patients;
- 18 (2) To promote medical research relative to the prevention and treatment of
19 cancer including sponsorship and conduct of relevant congresses,
20 convention, seminars and conferences;
- 21 (3) To create awareness on cancer prevention, treatment and control through
22 public information dissemination;
- 23 (4) To encourage the training physicians, nurses, medical technicians, health
24 officers and social workers on the practical and scientific conduct and
25 implementation of services, and related activities;
- 26 (5) To assist universities, colleges, hospitals and research institutions in their
27 studies of cancer and encourage advanced training and specialization on
28 matters of, or affecting cancer;
- 29 (6) To provide psychosocial support services and counseling to the patient and
30 family members; and

1 (7) To consolidate the information from other related organizations for the
2 purpose of aiding government's efforts, policies and programs relative to
3 the purposes and objectives enumerated herein.

4 Sec. 5. *Powers.* - For the attainment and/or furtherance of the above
5 enumerated purposes and objectives, the National Cancer Center of the Philippines,
6 acting through its Board of Trustees, shall have the following orders and functions,
7 among other things:

8 (1) To contract and be contracted with;

9 (2) To adopt by-laws, rules and regulations not contrary to law to govern the
10 administration and operation of the affairs of the National Cancer Center of
11 the Philippines;

12 (3) To purchase, receive, take or grant, hold, convey, sell, lease, pledge,
13 mortgage and otherwise deal with such property of whatever nature the
14 transaction of the lawful business of the National Cancer Center of the
15 Philippines may reasonably and necessarily require subject to the limitations
16 prescribed by law;

17 (4) To invite foreign cancer specialists and similar experts in the various medical
18 fields to train the personnel or trainees or residents of the National Cancer
19 Center of the Philippines;

20 (5) To advance the training of personnel of the Philippine conventions,
21 conferences, congresses, seminars to accomplish the purpose and
22 objectives of the National Cancer Center of the Philippines;

23 (6) To exercise such other powers and functions as may be necessary to carry
24 out the purposes of the National Cancer Center of the Philippines.

25 Sec. 7. *Tax Exemption on Donations.* - All donations, contributions or
26 endowment which may be made by entities or persons to the National Cancer Center
27 of the Philippines shall be exempt from income and gift taxes.

28 The National Cancer Center of the Philippines shall be exempt from the
29 payment of all taxes, charges and fees imposed by the government or any political
30 subdivision or instrumentality thereof

31 Sec. 8. *Assistance from Government Offices.* -The National Cancer Center of
32 the Philippines may call upon any department, bureau, offices, and agency or

1 instrumentality of the Government, including government-owned or controlled
2 corporations, for such assistance as it may need in the pursuit of purposes and
3 objectives.

4 *Sec. 9. Appropriations.* - The amount of one billion pesos is hereby appropriated
5 for the initial operation of the National Cancer Center of the Philippines which shall be
6 charged to the appropriations of the Department of Health under the current General
7 Appropriations Act. Thereafter, the necessary amount to support the continued
8 operation and maintenance of the National Cancer Center of the Philippines shall be
9 included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

10 *Sec. 10. Auditing.* - The books of accounts of the National Cancer Center of the
11 Philippines shall be subject to periodic auditing by the Commission on Audit.

12 *Sec. 11. Annual Report.* - The National Cancer Center of the Philippines shall
13 render to the Department of Health an annual report on its operations and
14 accomplishments.

15 *Sec. 11. Effect of Dissolution.* - If for any reason, the National Cancer Center
16 of the Philippines is dissolved, its properties and assets remaining at the time of such
17 dissolution shall revert to the Philippine Government for disposition in accordance with
18 law

19 *Sec. 12. Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is held invalid or
20 unconstitutional the other provisions not so declared shall remain in force and effect.

21 *Sec. 13. Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders and rules and regulations
22 contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or
23 amended accordingly.

24 *Sec. 14. Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
25 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,