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

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SENATE S.B. No. 1622

Introduced by SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS

AN ACT

UPGRADING THE BANGUI DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN BARANGAY ABACA, MUNICIPALITY OF BANGUI IN THE PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE, INTO A LEVEL II HOSPITAL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article XIII, Section 11 of the 1987 Constitution provides that "The State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the under-privileged, sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children. The State shall endeavor to provide free medical care to paupers."

The Bangui District Hospital is a secondary, 25-bed (Level 1) hospital located in Barangay Abaca, Municipality of Bangui, Province of Ilocos Norte. It caters the health and hospitalization needs of the 14 barangays in the municipality which have a combined population of more than 15,000 people. In fact, at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, the hospital was forced to limit its services. Patients who were not in an emergency situation were advised to go to the nearest health center in their villages or seek online consultation. Without a doubt, its 25 beds and existing manpower and facilities are insufficient to address the citizenry's numerous health concerns. Hence, this bill seeks to upgrade the Bangui District Hospital.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

IMEE R. MARCOS



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II HOSPITAL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

- **SECTION 1.** The Bangui District Hospital in Barangay Abaca, Municipality of Bangui in the Province of Ilocos Norte is hereby upgraded into a Level II Hospital.
- **SEC. 2.** Any future increase in bed capacity shall be consistent with the hospital development plan that shall be prepared by the Chief of Hospital of the Bangui District Hospital, and submitted to the Department of Health (DOH).
- **SEC. 3.** The existing professional health care services and facilities of the Bangui District Hospital shall also be upgraded to conform with and be commensurate to the increase in bed capacity as provided for in Section 2 hereof.
- **SEC. 4.** The existing workforce of the Bangui District Hospital, which includes doctors, nurses, and support personnel, shall be increased correspondingly.
- **SEC. 5.** The local government of Bangui shall provide the necessary funds to cover the maintenance and other operating expenses of the Bangui District Hospital. It shall also appropriate funds for the additional human resource complement to support the increase in bed capacity and the corresponding upgrading of its service facilities and professional health care services.
- **SEC. 6.** The Secretary of the DOH shall include in the Department's subsidy program its support for the capital outlay requirements of the hospital.

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SEC. 7. If any provision or part of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 8. All laws, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 9. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,