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



23 FEB 28 P6:59

SENATE

S. B. No.1942



Introduced by Senator SONNY ANGARA

AN ACT

ESTABLISHING A LEVEL II GENERAL HOSPITAL IN SAN JOSE CITY, NUEVA ECIJA, TO BE KNOWN AS THE DR. ELEUTERIO R. VIOLAGO GENERAL HOSPITAL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to the Philippine Constitution, the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them and 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 underprivileged sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children.

The 2nd District of Nueva Ecija has a total population of close of half a million based on the latest figures from the Philippine Statistics Authority. Hence, there is a need to establish a Level II Hospital in the legislative district to provide decent and affordable health services to its residents. Currently, its people are constrained to go out of their way to travel to nearby cities Cabanatuan City or Baguio City in order to avail of medical services. This, obviously, incurs additional financial burden only because the current healthcare system in the legislative district cannot accommodate all the patients' needs – particularly those that require facilities found in Level II hospitals such as emergency and outpatient services, isolation facilities, surgical/maternity facilities, departmentalized clinical services, respiratory unit, general ICU, NICU, dental clinic; tertiary clinical laboratory, blood station, 2nd level x-

ray, etc.

To respond to the health demands of the people from the 2nd District of Nueva Ecija, Representative Joseph Gilbert Violago – the proponent of this measure in the House of Representatives (HOR) has stated that he is willing to donate one to two hectares of land located in San Jose City, Nueva Ecija to the national government for the construction and operation of the Level II hospital to be known as the "Dr. Eleuterio R. Violago General Hospital".

The late Dr. Eleuterio R. Violago was a great Filipino philanthropist known for his charity works to various institutions, and associations recognized in Rome and made him a Papal awardee. He was a successful businessman known for his fair play in the market. He was also a politician known for his integrity in rendering public service for several years. Hence, the name of the hospital is in due recognition for his humanitarian service and integrity in the field of business and politics.

In line with the objective of the administration to provide quality healthcare for all Filipinos, as well as the goal of the Universal Health Care established by virtue of Republic Act No. 11223, the proposed measure seeks to establish a Level II General Hospital in San Jose City, which shall be under the direct supervision of the Department of Health (DOH) to ensure that the constituents within the legislative district and nearby places will have access to quality, safe, and affordable medical care, without incurring additional costs from travelling to other provinces.

In view of the foregoing, the urgent passage of this measure is sought.

SONNY ANGARA

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

SECTION 1. *Establishment of a Level II General Hospital in San Jose City, Nueva Ecija.* –There shall be established and maintained, under the direct control and supervision of the Department of Health (DOH), a general hospital with Level II capacity in San Jose City, Nueva Ecija, to be known as the "Dr. Eleuterio R. Violago General Hospital".

SECTION 2. Hospital Development Plan. — The DOH shall develop a hospital development plan to define the service capacity, development goals and targets of the hospital. Any further increase in bed capacity, healthcare facilities, service capability, and human resource complement shall be based on the hospital development plan that shall be prepared by the DOH.

SECTION 3. *Appropriations.* – The Secretary of Health shall immediately include in the department's program the operationalization and maintenance of the Dr. Eleuterio R. Violago General Hospital, the initial funding of which shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the DOH, and thereafter, the succeeding funding such as, but not limited to, the amount necessary for the capital outlay and the continued operation of the general hospital shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - Within six (6)

months following the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Health shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of its provisions.

SECTION 5. *Separability Clause.* — If any provision or part of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 6. *Repealing Clause.* — All laws, decrees, executive orders, presidential issuances and other administrative rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SECTION 7. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette, or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved

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