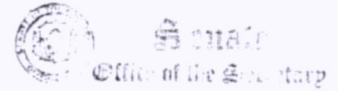


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Third Regular Session )



SENATE

'18 AUG 30 A11 :03

SENATE BILL NO. 1961

REC'D

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INTRODUCED BY **SENATOR JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO**

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**AN ACT**

**INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY FOR TERTIARY GENERAL HEALTH CARE OF THE DR. JOSE N. RODRIGUEZ MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AND SANITARIUM IN TALA, CALOOCAN CITY FROM TWO HUNDRED (200) TO EIGHT HUNDRED (800) BEDS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9420, ENTITLED 'AN ACT CONVERTING TWO HUNDRED (200) BEDS OF THE 2,000-BED DR. JOSE N. RODRIGUEZ MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AND SANITARIUM FOR TERTIARY GENERAL HEALTH CARE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR' AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Section 11, Article XIII of the 1987 Constitution of the Philippines, 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 underprivileged sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children. The State shall endeavor to provide free medical care to paupers."

Formerly known as Central Luzon Sanitarium, Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez Memorial Hospital and Sanitarium was established in 1940, to accommodate patients suffering from Hansen's Disease in the entire Luzon region in the

Philippines. It is currently situated within the district of Tala, in Caloocan City, Metro Manila.<sup>1</sup>

In 1970, the hospital began treating general medical cases due to the significant drop of Hansen patients. The hospital currently serves as the principal referral hospital for leprosy patients and the premier training and research center for leprosy care and management in the Philippines. It also serves the public health needs of community members of Tala and nearby areas.<sup>2</sup>

This is the most opportune time to increase the Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez Memorial Hospital and Sanitarium's bed capacity from 200 beds to 800 beds in order to conform with the policy of the State to provide quality and efficient health care service, in relation to the national government's health care agenda.

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



**JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO**

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<sup>1</sup> About DJNRMH, accessed through <http://djnrmh.doh.gov.ph/index.php/transparency/about-djnrmh> on 29 August 2018.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.



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

1 **SECTION 1. Increase in Authorized Capacity.** — The authorized Two  
2 Hundred (200) beds for tertiary general hospital use of the 2,000 beds of the  
3 Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez Memorial Hospital and Sanitarium located in Tala,  
4 Caloocan City is hereby increased to Eight Hundred (800) beds.

5  
6 **SEC. 2. Upgrade of Existing Service Facilities.** — The existing professional  
7 health care services and facilities of the of the Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez Memorial  
8 Hospital and Sanitarium are hereby upgraded to conform and be commensurate  
9 to the increase in its bed capacity as provided in Section 1 hereof.

10  
11 **SEC. 3. Upgrade of Existing Professional Health Care Services.** — The  
12 existing workforce of the Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez Memorial Hospital and  
13 Sanitarium shall also be correspondingly increased. The Department of Health  
14 (DOH), in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM)  
15 and the Civil Service Commission (CSC), and after consultation with the Dr. Jose

1 N. Rodriguez Memorial Hospital and Sanitarium, shall determine the additional  
2 plantilla positions to be created pursuant to this Act.

3  
4 **SEC. 4. Implementation.** — The increase in bed capacity for tertiary general  
5 hospital use of the Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez Memorial Hospital and Sanitarium  
6 from Two Hundred (200) to Eight Hundred (800) beds, shall be implemented  
7 for a period of not more than four (4) years from the approval of this Act.

8  
9 **SEC. 5. Appropriation.** — The Secretary of Health shall include in the  
10 Department's program the operationalization of the increase in beds for tertiary  
11 general health care purposes in the Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez Memorial Hospital  
12 and Sanitarium from Two Hundred (200) to Eight Hundred (800) beds, the  
13 initial funding of which shall be charged against the current year's  
14 appropriations of the hospital. Thereafter, the funds necessary for its continued  
15 operation shall be included in the General Appropriations Act (GAA).

16  
17 **SEC. 7. Effectivity.** — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
18 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

19  
20  
21 Approved,