



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

'19 FEB -4 P2 :55

SENATE

Senate Bill No. 2202

RECORDED

Introduced by Senator FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF BICOL MEDICAL CENTER FROM FIVE HUNDRED (500) TO ONE THOUSAND (1000) BEDS, UPGRADING THE SERVICE FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE THEREIN, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 15, Article II of our Constitution provides that "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them." The State is also mandated in Section 11, Article XIII "to 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."

The Bicol Medical Center (BMC) in Naga City has been serving patients coming from the 6 provinces and 7 cities of the Bicol region. Pursuant to Republic Act No. 8053, the BMC has been authorized to operate on a 300-bed capacity, excluding the Don Susano V. Rodriguez Memorial Mental Hospital located in Cadlan, Pili, Camarines Sur, which has a 200-bed capacity.

At present, said hospital is accommodating an average of 850 patients a day, with only 500 beds in its capacity. To improve its capacity in providing healthcare to the Bicol Region, this bill seeks to increase the bed capacity of the Bicol Medical Center (BMC) to 1000.

This bill is being filed as a counterpart bill to House Bill No. 8276, filed by Rep. Gabriel Bordado, Jr.

Respectfully submitted.

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

1 **SECTION 1.** The authorized bed capacity of Bicol Medical Center (BMC) is
2 hereby increased from five hundred (500) to one thousand (1000).

3 **SEC. 2.** The existing hospital facilities and professional health care services of
4 the BMC are also hereby upgraded and increased to conform with and be
5 commensurate to the increase in bed capacity.

6 **SEC. 3.** Upon consultation with the BMC, the Department of Health shall, in
7 coordination with the Department of Budget and Management and the Civil Service
8 Commission, determine the additional *plantilla* positions to be created and filled up
9 in the workforce of BMC.

10 **SEC. 5.** The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be
11 included in the annual General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment
12 into law and thereafter.

13 **SEC. 6.** All laws, decrees, orders, issuances, rules and regulations or part
14 thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed and/or
15 modified accordingly.

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

18 *Approved,*

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