



Senate
Office of the Secretary

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

'19 DEC 10 P5:54

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

Senate Bill No. 1226

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR CHRISTOPHER LAWRENCE "BONG" T. GO

AN ACT
AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH) TO SET AND APPROVE THE
BED CAPACITY AND SERVICE CAPABILITY OF ALL DOH HOSPITALS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

With the enactment of Republic Act No. 11223 or the Universal Health Care Law, the State is mandated to adopt a people-oriented approach for the delivery of health services that is centered on people's needs and well-being.

In 2017, there were 1,161 licensed hospitals in the Philippines, 405 of which were owned by the government, and 73 of which were retained by the Department of Health, including four government corporate specialty hospitals. The DOH hospitals complement the district and provincial hospitals managed by local government units, and the private hospitals in providing health care services.

When the Philippine Health Facility Development Plan was approved by the President in 2017, the ratio of general hospital beds to the population was 1:1,142, exceeding the ideal ratio of 1:1,000. Often serving patients beyond their authorized bed capacities, DOH hospitals are further constrained by the lack of adequate staffing, maintenance and operating resources to fully provide the quality of health care that their patients deserve. In one study, the average bed occupancy rate of DOH hospitals reached 121 percent, above the benchmark range of 80 to 85

percent. This situation result to longer waiting times for patients and delays in their treatment.

Under current regulations, a DOH hospital can only increase its bed capacity and improve its service capability through legislation. Proposals to adjust hospital capacity and capability compete with multitudes of other proposals in Congress.

To expedite the process for improving the capacity and capability of hospitals that are under the jurisdiction of the DOH, this measure seeks to authorize the DOH to increase the bed capacity and service capability of its retained hospitals, and to allow it to promulgate evaluation and approval guidelines for changes in capacity and capability.

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



SENATOR CHRISTOPHER LAWRENCE "BONG" T. GO



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

1 Section 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "DOH Hospital Bed
2 Capacity and Service Capability Rationalization Act of 2019."

3
4 Sec. 2. *Purpose, Scope and Coverage.* – This Act shall streamline the
5 process for approving changes in the authorized bed capacities and corresponding
6 service capabilities of all Department of Health (DOH) hospitals.

7
8 Sec. 3. *Authority to Approve.* – The DOH is hereby authorized to adjust and
9 approve the authorized bed capacities and corresponding service capabilities of its
10 retained hospitals. Thereafter, the DOH shall, through an administrative issuance,
11 determine the bed capacities and service capabilities of DOH hospitals, subject to
12 specific guidelines that shall be issued and promulgated, within three (3) months
13 after the effectivity of this Act.

14
15 Sec. 4. *Annual Report to Congress.* – The DOH shall provide Congress,
16 through the Committee on Health of the House of Representatives and Committee
17 on Health and Demography of the Senate, an annual report of hospitals with

1 approved bed capacities, along with the necessary funding requirements.

2

3 Sec. 5. *Philippine Health Facility Development Plan (PHFDP)*. – The DOH shall
4 develop the Philippine Health Facility Development Plan (PHFDP) to guide the
5 modernization and development plans of all government health facilities, and in
6 order to access capital outlay investment through the Health Facilities Enhancement
7 Program of the DOH and other national government capital outlay investment
8 mechanisms.

9

10 The Secretary of Health shall include in the Department's programs the
11 funding requirements for the adjustment in bed capacity and service capability of
12 each DOH hospital in accordance with the PHFDP and the hospital's modernization
13 and development plan, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General
14 Appropriations Act.

15

16 Sec. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR)*. – The DOH shall formulate
17 the IRR of this Act within ninety (90) days of its effectivity.

18

19 Sec. 7. *Repealing Clause*. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and
20 regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby
21 repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

22

23 Sec. 8. *Effectivity Clause*. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
24 publication in the Official Gazette, or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,