EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

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THE: May 17, 2021

THIE: 08:00 am

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SENATE S.B. No. 2191

Introduced by SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS

AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF BAGUIO GENERAL HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTER FROM EIGHT HUNDRED (800) BEDS TO ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED (1500) BEDS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 15 of Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them."

Baguio City have a total population of 345,366, according to the 2015 Population Census by the Philippine Statistics Authority. The city is also the center of business, commerce, and education in northern Luzon attracting more people into the area. However, there is only one state-owned hospital administered and operated by the Department of Health (DOH) in this populous city, the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center (BGHMC).

Prior to the pandemic, the bed capacity of BGHMC was increased from 500 to 800 beds by virtue of RA 11084 but due to the pandemic, this became insufficient to address the city's need. According to the Baguio City Health Services Office, Baguio City's health care utilization for COVID-19 had remained on critical risk status as of 26 April 2021. Clearly, the current capacity of BGHMC is still not enough to cater everyone who needs medical support during this kind of situation.

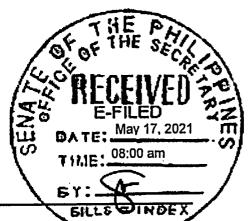
This bill seeks to increase the bed capacity of Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center (BGHMC) from Eight Hundred (800) to One Thousand Five Hundred (1500) beds to provide continuous efficient health services to more people, especially the less privileged, not just today but in the years to come.

In view of the foregoing, the expeditious passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

IMEE'R. MARCOS

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

- SECTION 1. The bed capacity of the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center (BGHMC) in Baguio City is hereby increased from Eight Hundred (800) to One Thousand Five Hundred (1500) beds.
- SEC. 2. The existing service facilities and professional health care services of the BGMC are hereby upgraded to conform with and commensurate to the bed capacity increase as provided for in Section 1 hereof.
- SEC. 3. The existing workforce of BGHMC shall also be correspondingly increased. The Department of Health, in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management and the Civil Service Commission, shall determine the additional *plantilla* positions to be created and filled up upon prior consultation with the BGHMC.
- SEC. 4. The increase in bed capacity of the BGHMC from Eight Hundred (800) to One Thousand Five Hundred (1500) beds shall be implemented for a period of not more than three (3) years from the approval of this Act.
- SEC. 5. The Secretary of Health shall immediately include in the Department's programs the implementation of the Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.
- SEC. 6. Republic Act No. 11084, otherwise known as "An Act Increasing the Bed Capacity of the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center from Five Hundred (500) to Eight Hundred (800) Beds and Appropriating Funds Therefor", is hereby repealed.
- SEC. 7. 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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