

**SENATE**  
**S. No. 2419**

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**Introduced by SENATORS RONALD "BATO" M. DELA ROSA AND FRANCIS  
"TOL" N. TOLENTINO**

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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL SPORTS HOSPITAL TO BE KNOWN AS**  
**THE ISAAC TOLENTINO MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER IN TAGAYTAY**  
**CITY, SPECIALIZING IN HEALTH AND SPORTS MEDICINE AND**  
**MUSCULOSKELETAL REHABILITATION, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS**  
**THEREFOR**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The recent 2020 Tokyo Olympics brought pride and joy to the Filipino people after world-class Filipino athletes took home multiple medals, including the first ever Philippine gold medal in the prestigious global sport competition. Government support for Filipino athletes should be intensified so that the country can sustain its great performance in international competitions. Indeed, the progress of national sports should be complemented by efficient delivery of premium health services to our athletes.

Consistent with the policy of the State to promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them,<sup>1</sup> the delivery of essential health services at affordable costs should remain unhampered at all times. Likewise, the mandate of the State to adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development should be aligned with its responsibility to develop a healthy and alert citizenry.<sup>2</sup>

Certainly, this measure will not only cater to the physical and mental well-being of professional athletes. Based on the Department of Health (DOH) Hospitals Profile, which used the 2019 Annual Hospital Statistical Reports and available data as of 30 October 2020,<sup>3</sup> Region IV-A has only one DOH Hospital. With 150.16% bed occupancy rate in 2019, the Batangas Medical Center is serving six hundred (600) inpatients daily and catering to neighboring provinces of Cavite, Laguna, Rizal, and Quezon. By virtue of Republic Act No. 11390, the authorized bed capacity of the Batangas Medical Center was increased from five hundred (500) to one thousand (1000) beds.

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<sup>1</sup> 1987 CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE II, SECTION 15.

<sup>2</sup> 1987 CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE XIV, SECTION 19(1).

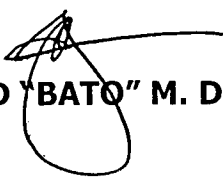
<sup>3</sup> Accessible at: [https://doh.gov.ph/sites/default/files/publications/DOH-Hospitals-Profile\\_0.pdf](https://doh.gov.ph/sites/default/files/publications/DOH-Hospitals-Profile_0.pdf).

The passage of this measure becomes even more necessary and urgent considering the ongoing COVID-19 situation in the country, especially in highly urbanized areas such as Metro Manila, Bulacan, Rizal, Laguna, and Cavite, or the so-called National Capital Region (NCR) Plus. As a Level 3 hospital, the proposed Isaac Tolentino Memorial Medical Center will be capacitated to provide not only Levels 1 and 2 hospital services, including consulting specialists, emergency and outpatient services, surgical or maternity facilities, among others. It will also provide a physical medicine and rehabilitation unit, ambulatory surgical clinic, dialysis clinic, and other health service capabilities required of a Level 3 hospital.

Moreover, the Philippines has yet to establish a medical facility that exclusively specializes in sports medicine. When enacted, the proposed Bill will be a first of its kind in the Philippines, congruent to the constitutional desire to continue government support for Filipino athletes. As such, it is only appropriate to make the Isaac Tolentino Memorial Medical Center a national hospital that will be managed by the DOH.

Finally, the local government of the City of Tagaytay willingly and generously donated a parcel of land where the Isaac Tolentino Memorial Medical Center will be constructed. It is likewise proposed that the hospital be named after former Tagaytay City Mayor Isaac Tolentino, who served the local government for almost three (3) decades, as a tribute to his unparalleled public service and dedication to the people of Tagaytay.

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



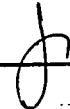
**RONALD "BATO" M. DELA ROSA**



**FRANCIS "TOL" N. TOLENTINO**

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AN ACT

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2 ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL SPORTS HOSPITAL TO BE  
3 KNOWN AS THE ISAAC TOLENTINO MEMORIAL MEDICAL  
4 CENTER IN TAGAYTAY CITY, SPECIALIZING IN HEALTH  
5 AND SPORTS MEDICINE AND MUSCULOSKELETAL  
6 REHABILITATION, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS  
7 THEREFOR

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

8 SECTION 1. There shall be established in the City of Tagaytay, Province of Cavite  
9 a Level III general hospital to be known as the "Isaac Tolentino Memorial Medical  
10 Center," which shall be under the direct control and supervision of the Department of  
11 Health. The hospital shall specialize in the provision of primary care, diagnosis,  
12 treatment, and management of illnesses and injuries related to sports medicine and  
13 musculoskeletal rehabilitation.

14 SECTION 2. The Department of Health shall manage the Isaac Tolentino  
15 Memorial Medical Center and prepare, in consultation with the City of Tagaytay, a  
16 hospital development plan aligned with the Philippine Health Facility Development  
17 Plan. Any future increase in bed capacity, healthcare facilities, service capability, and  
18 human resource complement shall be based on the hospital development plan.

19 SECTION 3. The Department of Health shall provide the initial funding for the  
20 establishment and operationalization of the Isaac Tolentino Memorial Medical Center.  
21 Thereafter, the funds necessary for its continued operation shall be included in the  
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23

1 General Appropriations Act (GAA). The Isaac Tolentino Memorial Medical Center shall  
2 be constructed on a parcel of land to be provided by the local government of the City  
3 of Tagaytay.

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5 SECTION 4. If any provision or part of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the  
6 remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

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8 SECTION 5. All laws, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations,  
9 inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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11 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the  
12 Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

13  
14 *Approved,*