


FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

10 JUL -5 11 39

SENATE

S. NO. 190

RECEIVED BY 

Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In the country, cancer ranks as a third leading cause of mortality, claiming 103 lives a day or four persons every hour. The estimated incidence rate is 189 persons per 100,000 Filipinos. One (1) out of five (5) Filipinos is expected to acquire cancer up to the age of 75. Despite this fact, there is no specialized care for all cancer sites in the Philippines.

Although there are several specialized hospitals with complete facilities for cancer patients, the same are concentrated or centralized in Metro Manila primarily catering the needs of cancer patients in NCR which is one of the regions with the highest cases of cancer. However, the cancer incidents are not only prevalent in the NCR. According to the 2004 Philippine Health Statistics, the other regions with the highest prevalence of reported cases are Regions 3, 1, 6, 7 and 4. Apparently, these regions do not have cancer hospitals with sufficient equipment and facilities to cater the needs of patients suffering from cancer.

The establishment and maintenance of the cancer center would primarily benefit the people suffering from cancer and would also further enhance the noble undertaking of research in cancer, provide a state of the art training of medical and technical personnel and render specialized medical services for the prevention, control and treatment of cancer.

Thus, this bill seeks to establish a national cancer center in the Province of Pampanga to be known as Philippine National Cancer Center. It is imperative to decentralize the hospitals providing services to these patients particularly in the regions outside Metro Manila. The province of Pampanga is accessible to the patients from the other areas with high prevalence of cancer incidents. It is strategically located to provide services and address the cancer cases in the regions with the highest reported cases particularly in Region 3.

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


ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV
Senator

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL CANCER CENTER TO BE KNOWN AS THE
PHILIPPINE NATIONAL CANCER CENTER AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR

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

1 **SECTION 1. *Establishment.*** -- There shall be established, under the supervision
2 of the Department of Health (DOH), the Philippine National Cancer Center in the
3 Province of Pampanga, herein referred to as Cancer Center.

4 The Cancer Center shall be administered by a Board of Trustees, composed of
5 seven (7) members, to be appointed by the President of the Philippines upon the
6 recommendation of the Department of Health.

7 The members of the Board of Trustees shall serve for a period of *four (4)* years
8 and until their successors shall have been appointed and qualified. Any vacancy in the
9 Board shall be filled by appointment by the President of the Philippines upon the
10 recommendation of the Department of Health, and the appointee shall serve for the
11 unexpired term.

12
13 **SEC. 2. *Board of Trustees.*** - The Board of Trustees, as provided for in the
14 preceding section, shall have the following powers and functions:

- 15 1. To elect a Chairman from among them, who shall be the presiding officer of
16 the Board of Trustees;
- 17 2. To appoint a Director of the Cancer Center who shall serve as Vice-
18 Chairman of the Board;

- 1 3. To formulate policies and adopt measures which are necessary to
2 carry out the provisions of this act;
- 3 4. To prescribe, amend, and repeal its by-laws, rules and regulations
4 governing the manner in which the general business of the Cancer
5 Center may be conducted and its power exercised; and
- 6 5. To perform such other functions as maybe necessary to achieve the
7 objectives of this Act.

8 The four (4) members of the Board of Trustees shall constitute a quorum and
9 may transact business. Any decision of such four members on any matter duly presented to
10 the Board of Trustees shall constitute a valid and binding act of the Cancer Center.

11
12 **SEC. 3. *Director of the Cancer Center.*** - The Cancer Center shall have a
13 director who shall be its chief executive officer. The director shall have the
14 following powers and function:

- 15 1. To appoint, remove, and fix the compensation of the personnel
16 thereof, subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees;
- 17 2. To prepare the agenda for the meeting of the Board and to submit for
18 the consideration of the Board, policies and other important measures;
- 19 3. To execute and administer the policies and measures approved by the
20 Board; and
- 21 4. To direct and supervise the internal operations and administration of
22 the Cancer Center.

23
24 **SEC. 4. *Government Contributions.*** - The Government shall contribute the
25 necessary land, building, equipment and facilities to the Cancer Center.

26
27 **SEC. 5. *Property of the Center.*** - The Property of the Cancer Center shall
28 consist of such real, personal, mixed, and other type of property, now owned or reserved
29 for, or may hereafter be given, donated, acquired, transferred or conveyed to the Cancer
30 Center by the Philippine Government, its branches and instrumentalities, any foreign
31 government, as well as by trust, foundations, corporations, or persons, alien or domestic,
32 in order to carry out its purposes and objectives as set forth herein.

1 **SEC. 6. Purposes and Objectives.** - The purposes and objectives of the Cancer
2 Center are:

- 3 1. To construct, establish, operate and maintain a cancer center for the public
4 welfare, including a specialized cancer hospital;
- 5 2. To create awareness of cancer prevention, control and treatment in the
6 general public, through film showings, lectures, congresses, conventions,
7 seminars, and conferences;
- 8 3. To promote, encourage, engage and assist in scientific research on the
9 prevention, control and treatment of cancer;
- 10 4. To create cancer control programs through the collection and recording of facts
11 about cancer incidence, and other data;
- 12 5. To gather, compile, and publish the findings of scientific researches for public
13 dissemination;
- 14 6. To facilitate and encourage the dissemination and exchange of ideas and
15 information on the prevention, treatment and control of cancer, to arouse,
16 enhance and develop public interest on cancer consciousness or awareness;
- 17 7. To develop or support patient care programs and other programs that would
18 provide pain relief and psycho-social support for the terminally-ill cancer patient
19 and his family;
- 20 8. To encourage and/or undertake the training of physicians, nurses, medical
21 technicians, health officers and social workers on the practical and scientific
22 conduct and implementation of cancer services, and related activities;
- 23 9. To encourage the formation of other organization on the national, provincial,
24 city, municipal or barangay level and to coordinate their various efforts and
25 activities for the purpose of achieving a more effective programmatic
26 approach on the common problems relative to the objectives herein enumerated;
27 and
- 28 10. To extend medical services to the general public, to help prevent, relieve or
29 alleviate the innumerable afflictions and maladies of the people specially the
30 poor and less fortunate it life, without regard to race, creed, color or political
31 belief.

32
33 **SEC. 7. Powers of the Cancer Center.** - For the attainment and/or furtherance of
34 the above purposes and objectives, the Cancer Center, as a body corporate, acting through

1 its Board of Trustees, shall have all the powers pertaining to a juridical person, and is
2 therefore authorized, among other things:

- 3 1. To acquire and hold in any property of whatever nature or description, and to
4 dispose of such property under any mode of encumbrance or conveyance;
- 5 2. To contract and be contracted with;
- 6 3. To mortgage, lease, sell, transfer, convey or otherwise dispose of its properties;
- 7 4. To solicit and receive donations, endowments and funds in the form of
8 contributions, whether in cash or in kind, from both the public and private
9 sectors;
- 10 5. To open such accounts in banks and other financial institutions, and to disburse
11 such funds or invest the same as the Board may direct to accomplish or advance
12 the purposes or interest of the Cancer Center;
- 13 6. To send the personnel of the Cancer Center to research or medical institutes or
14 universities for advance training or observation and to attend international or
15 regional conventions, conferences, congresses, seminars as the Board may deem
16 necessary to accomplish the purposes and objectives of the Cancer Center;
- 17 7. To adopt a set of by-laws, rules and regulations not inconsistent with law and the
18 provisions hereof to govern the administration and operation of the affairs of the
19 Cancer Center; and To develop or support patient care programs and other
20 programs that would provide pain relief and psycho-social support for the
21 terminally-ill cancer patient and his family;
- 22 8. To do all such other acts and things as are or may be necessary or incidental for
23 the accomplishment of the purposes and objectives of the Cancer Center.

24
25 **SEC. 8. Tax Exemptions.** - All donations, contributions or endowment that may
26 be made by entities or persons to the Cancer Center shall be exempt from income and gift
27 taxes.

28 The Cancer Center shall be exempt from the payment of all taxes, charges and fee
29 imposed by the Government or any political subdivision or instrumentality thereof.

30
31 **SEC. 9. Assistance from government offices.** - The Cancer Center may call upon
32 any department, bureau, office, agency or instrumentality of the Government, including
33 government-owned or controlled corporations, for such assistance as it may need in the
34 pursuit of its purposes and objectives.

1 **SEC. 10. Appropriations.** - The amount of eight hundred million
2 (P800,000,000.00) for the structure equipment and initial operation and maintenance of
3 the Cancer Center shall be charged to the appropriations for the Department of Health.
4 Thereafter, such funds as may be necessary for the continued operation and maintenance
5 of the Cancer Center shall be included in the Genera Appropriations Act.

6
7 **SEC. 11. Auditing.** - The books and accounts of the Cancer Center shall be
8 subject to periodic auditing by the duly authorized representative Commission on Audit.

9
10 **SEC. 12. Annual Report.** - The Cancer Center shall render to the Department of
11 Health an annual report of its activities, accomplishments and recommendations.

12
13 **SEC. 13. Effect of Dissolution of the Cancer Center.** - If for any reason, the
14 Cance Center is dissolved, its assets and properties remaining at the time of dissolution,
15 shall revert to the Philippine Government for disposition in accordance with law.

16
17 **SEC. 14. Repealing Clause.** - Any laws, decrees, ordinances or rules and
18 regulations which are inconsistent with or contrary to the provision of this Act is hereby
19 amended or repealed.

20
21 **SEC. 15. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its
22 publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,