



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 830

BY REPRESENTATIVES SYJUCO, PINGOY, UY (R.S.), UY (R.A.), YU, JAAFAR,
PIAMONTE, RODRIGUEZ, SALIMBANGON, ARENAS AND VIOLAGO

AN ACT CONVERTING THE WESTERN VISAYAS SANITARIUM AND
LEPROSARIUM IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF STA. BARBARA,
PROVINCE OF ILOILO INTO THE PRESIDENT DIOSDADO
MACAPAGAL MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AND RESEARCH
INSTITUTE FOR TROPICAL MEDICINE, DEFINING ITS
POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 SECTION 1. *Title.* – The Western Visayas Sanitarium and Leprosarium
2 in the Municipality of Sta. Barbara, Province of Iloilo is hereby converted into
3 the President Diosdado Macapagal Memorial Hospital and Research Institute
4 for Tropical Medicine, hereinafter referred to as the Institute.

5 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared a policy of the
6 State to promote and advance the complete development in the field of health
7 and research.

8 SEC. 3. *Scope and Coverage of Tropical Medicine.* – For purposes of
9 this Act, the scope and coverage of tropical medicine shall pertain to diseases
10 that are specific to the tropics, which is the geographical area between the

1 tropic of Cancer and the tropic of Capricorn, and for diseases that present
2 differently in this geographical region as compared to other regions, to wit:
3 gastrointestinal infections, viral hepatitis, bacterial and non-bacterial
4 respiratory infections, amoebiasis, schistosomiasis, filariasis, malaria,
5 pertussis, diphtheria, tetanus, meningitis, maningismus, measles, mumps, herpes,
6 chicken pox, rocky mountain spotted fever, encephalitis, echo-viral diseases,
7 coxachie viral diseases and Philippine hemorrhagic fever: *Provided*, That the
8 Department of Health may include such other pertinent diseases in consultation
9 with the Advisory Board herein created.

10 SEC. 4. *Authority and Responsibility.* – The Institute shall have the
11 following authority and responsibility, which shall be exercised, by its offices:

12 (a) The Institute shall be operated as a special project in the
13 Department of Health in the Visayas area. The Secretary of Health shall
14 promulgate policies for and exercise overall supervision over the Institute.

15 (b) The Institute shall be headed by an executive director who shall be
16 assisted by two (2) assistant directors, all of whom shall be appointed by the
17 Secretary of the Department of Health. The executive director shall be
18 responsible for the implementation of policies and the immediate management
19 of the programs and operations of the Institute.

20 (c) The assistant directors shall aid the executive director in the
21 performance of his operational duties, and shall perform such other functions
22 as may be directed by the executive director. One (1) assistant director shall
23 be tasked to overlook the policy, planning and monitoring activities of the
24 Institute, while the other shall be responsible for support staff services.

25 SEC. 5. *Powers and Functions.* – The Institute shall have the following
26 powers and functions:

27 (a) Undertake research activities in the diagnosis, control and
28 prevention of tropical diseases that are major causes of mortality and morbidity
29 in the Philippines.

1 (b) Conduct clinical trials aimed at better understanding and control of
2 tropical diseases.

3 (c) Conduct regular training courses for medical and paramedical
4 personnel in the control of common tropical diseases not just in the Western
5 Visayas but in the country as well.

6 (d) Provide high quality tertiary care to both inpatients and outpatients
7 suffering from tropical diseases included within the scope of the Institute's
8 research activities.

9 (e) Participate in the technical cooperation program in coordination
10 with the Department of Health's Research Institute for Tropical Medicine in
11 research activities in the diagnosis, control and prevention of tropical diseases.

12 (f) Apply for, receive, and accept bequests, grants, and donation of
13 funds, equipment, materials and services needed for the attainment of its
14 objectives.

15 (g) Perform such other related activities as may be assigned by the
16 Department of Health.

17 *SEC. 6. Organization and Personnel.* – The Institute shall also have its
18 technical and administrative support. The officers and employees of the
19 Institute shall be appointed by the Secretary of Health upon recommendation
20 of the Advisory Board in accordance with existing laws governing such.
21 Consultants may be drawn from the public and private sectors on consultancy
22 or contractual basis and shall be granted honoraria or allowances at such
23 amounts as may be determined in accordance with existing rules and
24 regulations.

25 *SEC. 7. Advisory Board.* – There shall be in the Institute an Advisory
26 Board to be administered under the direction of the Secretary of Health, to be
27 composed of the following officials or their duly designated representatives:

28 (a) The Secretary of the Department of Health or the duly designated
29 representative;

1 (b) The Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology or the
2 duly designated representative;

3 (c) The executive director of the Institute;

4 (d) One (1) representative from the association of medical research
5 organizations to be appointed by the Secretary of Health; and

6 (e) The chief of hospital.

7 The functions of the Advisory Board shall be:

8 (1) Formulate and recommend to the Secretary of Health policies,
9 programs, standards and guidelines for the effective and efficient operation of
10 the Institute;

11 (2) Review, endorse and recommend to the Secretary of Health the
12 annual budget plan;

13 (3) Advise the Institute on creating and implementing its vision and
14 missions;

15 (4) Report annually to the Secretary of Health on its activities and,
16 whenever necessary, make recommendations in relation to the performance of
17 the Institute; and

18 (5) Recommend to the Secretary of Health the appointments of officers,
19 personnel and consultants.

20 SEC. 8. *Biomedical Research Functions.* – The functions of the
21 Institute involving biomedical research in tropical medicine will be undertaken
22 together with applicable appropriations, records, equipment, property and such
23 personnel as may be necessary.

24 SEC. 9. *Funding.* – The Secretary of Health shall immediately include
25 in the Department's programs the implementation of this Act, the initial
26 funding of which shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of
27 the Western Visayas Sanitarium and Leprosarium. Thereafter, the amount
28 necessary for the continued operation of the President Diosdado Macapagal

1 Memorial Hospital and Research Institute for Tropical Medicine shall be
2 included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

3 SEC. 10. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
4 completion of its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general
5 circulation.

Approved,

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