

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 5523



Introduced by: REPRESENTATIVE SHERNEE A. TAN

EXPLANATORY NOTE


Section 15, Article II of the Constitution provides that, *"The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them."* While the above-stated policy has been diversely implemented both nationally and locally, present realities still demand an impelling necessity to improve existing health facilities and develop health programs which are appropriate to address the growing and actual health needs of the people.

This bill therefore seeks to increase the bed capacity of the Sulu Provincial Hospital in the Municipality of Jolo, Province of Sulu from one hundred twenty-five (125) to two hundred (200) beds.

The Sulu Provincial Hospital was established in 1916 with only thirty (30) beds. Six decades later, its bed capacity grew into One hundred (100) beds. Again, after two decades or in 1992, the bed capacity was increased to one hundred twenty-five (125) by virtue of Republic Act No. 7366.

Through the years, the number of patients, particularly the poor and the underprivileged, who sought the services and were admitted to the provincial hospital had increased significantly. The existing 125-bed capacity provincial hospital cannot cope with the ever-increasing number of patients and their diversified health needs, especially those requiring confinement. Increasing its bed capacity to 200 beds and the corresponding increase in the number of medical practitioners and health workers employed in the hospital will result in more patients being accommodated and better served in the provincial hospital.

The approval of this bill therefore will greatly benefit the poor patients, who had been deprived of quality health care due to the skyrocketing hospital costs.


SHERNEE A. TAN
Representative
Kusug Tausug Partylist

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Introduced by: **REPRESENTATIVE SHERNEE A. TAN**

AN ACT
INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE SULU PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL
IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF JOLO, PROVINCE OF SULU AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SEC. 1. The authorized bed capacity of the Sulu Provincial Hospital is hereby increased from one hundred twenty-five (125) to two hundred (200) beds.

SEC. 2. The Department of Health, in consultation with the Provincial Governor, shall determine the number of plantilla positions to be created and the service facilities and professional health care services to be upgraded commensurate to the increase in the number of bed capacity.

SEC. 3. The increase in the bed capacity of the Sulu Provincial Hospital from one hundred twenty-five (125) beds to two hundred (200) beds shall be implemented within a period of two (2) years from the approval of this Act.

SEC. 4. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,