

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF THE REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO: 7297



INTRODUCED BY: REP. FELICIANO R. BELMONTE, JR., VINCENT P. CRISOLOGO, WINSTON T. CASTELO, JORGE "BOLET" BANAL, ALFRED VARGAS, JOSE CHRISTOPHER Y. BELMONTE

EXPLANATORY

The Quirino Memorial Medical Center ("QMMC") opened its doors in 1953 as the first government hospital in Quezon City.

Quezon City, which is the most populous city in the National Capital Region and the third largest in the Philippines, provides QMMC with the biggest number of patients (44%). Furthermore, QMMC caters to residents of Antipolo, Rizal, Marikina, Pasig, Caloocan, Montalban, Novaliches, Laguna, Bulacan, and Cavite. QMMC also receives referrals from other tertiary-level health care facilities. Moreover, its proximity to flood-prone areas (Marikina, Cainta), Military camps (Camp Crame and Camp Aguinaldo), major thoroughfares (C-5 and MRT Railways Station 2), and the large universities (University of the Philippines, Ateneo de Manila University, and Miriam College) makes QMMC a popular choice among health care facilities.

Today, QMMC is a level 3 teaching and training medical center providing patient service such as internal medicine, surgery, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, medical imaging, ophthalmology, otorhinolaryngology head and neck surgery, anesthesia, and pathology as well as acute psychiatric unit, pediatric and adult dentistry, neurophysiology, respiratory unit, center for neurologic sciences, acute infectious diseases ward, and endoscopy unit. As proof of its commitment to service, in 2010 QMMC was awarded the Center of Excellence status, the highest accreditation level conferred by PhilHealth.

"Republic Act No. 10345, enacted in 2012, increased QMMC's bed capacity from 350 to 500. The law gave relief to the hospital, its staff, and its patients after the institutions suffered perennially from inadequate beds, equipment, and manpower. Despite this increase in bed capacity and manpower complement, the hospital continues to experience inadequacies resulting from the persistent influx of patient. QMMC's percentage of occupancy based on authorized bed capacity remains high at 218.61 percent in 2017, 290.95 percent in 2015, 311.09 percent in 2016, and 250.82 percent in 2017, bringing the average annual occupancy rate at 267.87 percent. This means that the institution operates at a level that is more than twice its capacity. Increasing QMMC's bed capacity from 500 to 1,000 will address the problem and provide the necessary resources to improve the medical center's service."

Providing quality healthcare to Filipinos is at the core of QMMC's mission. Since its humble beginning as a 75-bed hospital to its present 500-bed capacity, one of the QMMC's challenges has always been to keep up with the increasing patient load and its expanding services. This bill seeks to increase the capacity of QMMC and implement a corresponding adjustment in manpower complement.

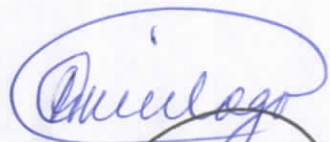
Thus, the approval of this measure is earnestly sought.



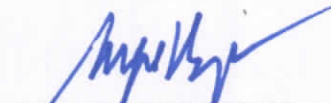
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AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF QUIRINO MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER FROM FIVE HUNDRED (500) BEDS TO ONE THOUSAND (1,000) BEDS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR IT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

Section 1. The bed capacity of Quirino Memorial Medical Center is hereby increased from five hundred (500) to one thousand (1,000) with concomitant manpower complement

Section 2. The Secretary of Health shall include in the program of the Department of Health the implementation of the increase in bed capacity.

Section 3. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriation Act.

Section 4. The increase in bed capacity shall be implemented for the period not more than three years from the approval of this Act.

Section 5. All laws, decrees, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act shall be deemed amended or repealed accordingly.

Section 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen days (15) upon its publication in two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.