

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HB No. **353**



Introduced by Rep. Roseller L. Barinaga

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This delay in the purchases of medicines and other medical supplies and equipments among local hospitals has resulted in inefficient delivery of health services. As a matter of procedure, vouchers for any kind of purchases have to be signed and approved by concerned local chief executives. Such procedure results in delays because of too many papers and documents that have to be approved and signed by local officials.

Considering the urgent need of hospitals to have adequate supply of medicines and other medical equipments, this Bill seeks to amend Section 344 of Republic Act No. 7160 (The Local Government Code of 1991) by allowing heads of departments and chiefs of hospitals to approve such disbursements. However, the Bill also provides that such head or chief should be duly authorized by concerned local chief executives to act on said purchases.

Approval of this measure is being requested.


ROSELLER L. BARINAGA
Representative, 2nd District
Zamboanga del Norte

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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AN ACT

AUTHORIZING HEADS AND CHIEFS OF HOSPITALS TO APPROVE PURCHASES OF MEDICINES AND OTHER MEDICAL SUPPLIES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 344 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991" AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Section 344 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991" is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 344. *Certification on, and Approval of, Vouchers.* - No money shall be disbursed unless the local budget officer certifies to the existence of appropriation, and the local treasurer certifies to the availability of funds for the purpose. x x x

In case of special or trust funds, disbursements shall be approved by the administrator of the fund.

IN CASES OF PROCUREMENT OF MEDICINES AND OTHER MEDICAL SUPPLIES NECESSARY FOR THE DELIVERY OF BASIC HEALTH SERVICES, HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS AND CHIEFS OF HOSPITALS, DULY AUTHORIZED BY CONCERNED LOCAL CHIEF EXECUTIVES, MAY APPROVE SUCH DISBURSEMENTS.

X X X"

SEC. 2. All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, and all other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 3. If any part or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,