

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

13th Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 303

Introduced by Representative Abayon

EXPLANATORY NOTE

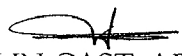
The delivery of health care and health services are widely viewed as a function of government, thus, it cannot be compromised and neglected. This is the underlying reason in creating the Northern Samar Provincial Hospital and the rationale why this hospital needs to be converted into a Tertiary Level III – Regional Hospital of Eastern Visayas.

The Northern Samar Provincial Hospital in Catarman, Northern Samar used to be one of premier public hospitals in the Visayas. Now, with the devolution of health services mandated by the Local Government Code, the said hospital has been downgraded – turning its level of service into primary health care, lacking medicines and supplies, and demoralized medical staff and personnel due to substandard and poor incentives.

The deterioration of said hospital is occurring amidst the increase of population needing tertiary health services that does not only come from the province but from the entire Samar Island. The existing Regional Medical center is located in Tacloban City that is only reachable after seven hours land travel. The establishment of said tertiary regional hospital would only serve Northern Samar but the three provinces of Samar as well, which are more proximate than the existing Regional Medical Center in Tacloban City.

The operation of tertiary regional hospital in Northern Samar would also answer to clinical requirement of students taking medical-related courses who are studying within the locality. These students come from the University of the Eastern Philippines – Colleges of Nursing and Medicines, and midwifery and medical technology students from Collegio de San Ruiz, who come mostly from marginal families. Their financial condition retrain them to get affiliation outside the province.

In view of the foregoing, approval of the attached bill is earnestly sought and highly recommended.


HARLIN CAST. ABAYON

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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13th Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 803

Introduced by Representative Abayon

AN ACT CONVERTING THE NORTHERN SAMAR PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL IN CATARMAN, NORTHERN SAMAR, INTO EASTERN VISAYAS REGIONAL HOSPITAL UNDER THE SUPERVISION, CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.

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

SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy. - The state shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them. Towards this end, the state shall give primary, secondary and tertiary health services adequate, accessible and affordable to all the citizens.

SECTION 2. The objectives of this Act:

- (a) To upgrade the Northern Samar Provincial Hospital into a Tertiary Hospital - Level III
- (b) To provide easy accessibility to tertiary health care for less fortunate Filipinos from Northern Samar and Calbayog City, who have no place to go except government hospital.
- (c) To provide teaching, training and medical research hospital for medical students in the locality through this Regional Hospital.

SECTION 3. The Northern Samar Provincial Hospital in the Municipality of Catarman, Northern Samar, is hereby converted into a Tertiary Level III -Regional Hospital of Eastern Visayas Region, increasing therefore its bed capacity into three hundred.

SECTION 4. The Regional Hospital shall be under the full administrative and technical supervision, control management of the Department of Health. The Department

of Health shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act,

SECTION 5. The amount of Seventy million pesos (Php 70.0M) is hereby appropriated for the construction of additional buildings, repair and rehabilitation of existing buildings and purchase of medical equipment. Funds necessary for its operation and maintenance, as well as for medical staff and personnel services, shall be included in the General Appropriations Act in the following year after the enactment of this Act and every year thereafter.

SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,

