

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 845

Introduced by Hon. Aurelio "Oyie" Matias Umali

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill aims to provide at least one (1) Dentist for every municipality in every province in the country.

Out of 1,547 municipalities, only 420 municipal hospitals/district hospitals serving one or more municipalities or cities have dentist. Thirty-three percent (33%) is deprived of dental health services. Therefore, some areas of our societies have partially enjoyed this right and privilege; others never at all.

There is a shortage and maldistribution of dentists in the country. Majority of them are concentrated in big cities practicing their profession privately or employed in other institutions.

Health is a basic human right. The right to health of every Filipino citizen is guaranteed in the 1987 Constitution, it states, that: "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and still health consciousness among them".

This mandate is based on the premise that a healthy population is a productive population which is a necessary factor in a nation's economic development. Thus, the development of an effective, responsive and comprehensive health care is an integral part of national development.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

AURELIO "OYIE" MATIAS UMALI
Representative
3rd District, Nueva Ecija

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AN ACT
MANDATING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO PROVIDE AT LEAST ONE (1) DENTIST IN EVERY MUNICIPALITY OF EVERY PROVINCE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SEC. 1. There is hereby provided one (1) Dentist in every municipality of every province under the control and supervision of the Department of Health;

SEC. 2. The Department of Health shall issue rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act;

SEC. 3. The amount necessary for the purpose of this Act shall be funded out of the appropriations of the Department of Health. Thereafter, such amount as may be necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 4. This act shall effect immediately upon its approval.

Approved.