

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Thirteenth Congress
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1474



Introduced by Hon. Rodolfo C. Bacani

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Although private hospitals and other private health institutions genuinely aim to provide adequate and competent medical services to the people, maintenance costs and orientation to profit makes it difficult for them to sustain very competitive rates, to the detriment of the ordinary Filipino patient. It is in the light of such reality that government's role in safeguarding and promoting the people's right to health and health services is made even more essential and urgent.

Sadly, perennial budgetary problems likewise plague government hospitals, preventing them from filling this vacuum in the Filipino's health care needs. This is especially true in cases involving surgery and medical procedures which entail highly considerable finances.

The Jose R. Reyes Memorial Medical Center (JRRMMC) is one such flagship hospital of the Department of Health (DOH) which has constantly strived to meet the medical requirements of the less fortunate members of society. It has since provided the public with affordable, premium health care services, catering not only to patients from the immediate Metropolis, but also to those referred by other medical institutions from various provinces in the country.

Notably, daily admissions of the JRRMMC for emergency consultation and treatment; particularly involving cancer-causing diseases and dermatology related problems, have dramatically increased in recent years. Painstakingly, the Center still efficiently responded to this call despite its limited resources. However, the steady growth of medical cases, particularly in the fields of trauma, cancer and dermatology, necessitates that the government review JRRMMC's policies.

In view of the foregoing, this bill seeks to obtain national government assistance for the JRRMMC to augment the City government's meager resources by converting and upgrading it into a National Medical Center for Trauma, Cancer and Dermatology of the Department of Health. Consequently, the Center shall be provided two new buildings for its patients; increasing its bed capacity, while making it equip with state-of-the-art laboratory facilities.

In effect, this legislation aims to create a more responsive health institution that will address the pressing medical needs of the people, more particularly the poor and marginalized of society. The immediate passage of this bill is therefore earnestly sought.



RODOLFO C. BACANI

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AN ACT
UPGRADING THE JOSE R. REYES MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER
(JRRMMC) INTO A DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH) NATIONAL CENTER
FOR TRAUMA, CANCER AND DERMATOLOGY AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy. It is hereby declared a policy of the state to adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health care and other social services available to every individual at affordable costs, especially for the underprivileged sick, elderly, disabled women and children.

SECTION 2. Pursuant to the above-declared policy, there is hereby authorized the upgrading of the Jose R. Reyes Memorial Medical Center (JRRMMC), hereinafter referred to as the Center, located along Rizal Avenue in Manila into a Department of Health national center for trauma, cancer and dermatology.

SECTION 3. To enable the Center to effectively carry out its functions as a national center for trauma, cancer and dermatology, a modern twelve-storey main building with a heliport for emergency operations shall be constructed within the JRRMMC compound.

SECTION 4. The Center, manned by an adequate number of competent personnel, shall be equipped with modern facilities to be housed in the main building, particularized as follows:

1. A 1,500 bed facility for in-patients.
2. Emergency facilities for at least 700 cases per day.

3. Fully-equipped special care units such as, but not limited to, the Medical Intensive Care Unit (MICU), the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU), Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), Surgical Intensive Care Unit (SICU) and the Burns, Stroke, Spine, Renal and Pulmonary Care Units.
4. State-of-the-art diagnostic and therapeutic equipment and modalities.
5. Modern training and research laboratory facilities.
6. Complete sectionalized laboratory and blood banking system.
7. Computer-based Integrated Hospital Information System.
8. Other facilities and amenities necessary for a premier teaching-training medical center.

SECTION 5. A four-storey complex shall also be constructed within the JRRMMC compound to house service facilities within departmentalized clinics for 2,000 out-patients.

SECTION 6. The execution of the project plan for the physical plant of the Center shall be undertaken by the Department of Health (DOH) in consultation with the Department of Public Works and Highways.

SECTION 7. Such amount as may be necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be taken from the budget of the Department of Health for the succeeding fiscal year upon its approval. Thereafter, the budgetary requirement for the Center's operations shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 8. All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect fifteen days after its publication in two national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,