AM-214

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

1st Regular Session

House Bill No. 1946

Introduced by: HON. SOLOMON R. CHUNGALAO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 15, Article II of the Constitution of the Republic states "The state shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them." This state policy is further expounded in Section 11, Article XIII of the fundamental law of the land which states, "The state shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services to all the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the underprivileged, sick, elderly, disabled, women and children. The state shall endeavor to provide free medical care to paupers."

To give flesh to this pledge of the state to protect and serve the health care needs of the citizenry, it is necessary to construct additional health centers and hospitals through out the archipelago, especially in the region where they are most needed. In the Municipality of Aguinaldo, there are no hospitals, private or public. The people of this municipality depend on the hospitals of the neighboring municipalities, the nearest of which is located about 20 kilometers. This goes without saying that the access roads thereat are not that pleasant. The nearest private hospitals are located in the Province of Isabela which is more than fifty kilometers away. Therefore, patients from the Municipality of Aguinaldo are left with no choice but to avail of quack doctors as an alternative. Those that would sacrifice to go to the nearest hospital would always certainly arrive there as DEAD ON ARRIVAL (DOA).

In most instances, government-funded infirmaries are the only remaining refuge of the people against common and fatal diseases at affordable costs. But these services are not even found thereat. Yet, while there is constant conversion and upgrading of the already established public hospitals in the other municipalities and provinces, there lingers the clamor to build more of these facilities especially in the countryside. This is essential in uplifting the health conditions of the many inhabitants who cannot afford even the most basic of health services. This will also bolster the thrust of the new administration to give more to the under privileged majority of our countrymen.

This proposal to establish a municipal hospital in the Municipality of Aguinaldo, Province of Ifugao is hinged on and justified by the preceding explanation. It is, therefore, earnestly sought that it be approved.

SOLOMON R. CHUNGALAO

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AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TWENTY-FIVE BED CAPACITY MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF AGUINALDO, PROVINCE OF IFUGAO TO BE KNOWN AS AGUINALDO MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE.

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established a twenty-five bed capacity municipal hospital in the Municipality of Aguinaldo, Province of Ifugao to be known as the Aguinaldo Municipal Hospital.

SECTION 2. The Department of Health, in coordination with the local government officials concerned, shall promulgate and issue such rules and regulations as may be necessary to implement the Provisions of this Act.

SECTION 3. The amount necessary to carry out the implementation of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year of its enactment into law. Thereafter, such funds necessary for the maintenance and operation of the hospital shall be provided in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Code.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved.