

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL 2540

Introduced by Hon. Albert S. Garcia

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish a fifty (50)-bed capacity district hospital in the Municipality of Pilar, Province of Bataan.

Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Constitution of the Philippines clearly provides: "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them." Moreover, Article XIII, Section II states: "The State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other services available 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."

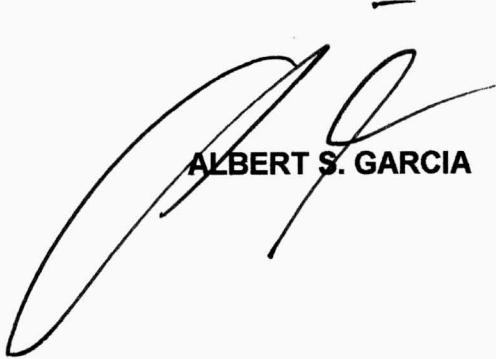
It is very unfortunate, however, that while the people in the rural areas are equally entitled to the right to health as guaranteed under the constitution like their counterparts in the urban areas, they are not so placed in the same footing because health services are too expensive for them or health institutions are unavailable. This situation is true in the case of the people in Pilar, Bataan.

The Municipality of Pilar in the Province of Bataan has a population of thirty-four thousand four hundred twenty seven (34,427), residing in nineteen (19) barangays. The town is bounded by Orion in the South, Balanga in the North, Bagac in the West and Manila Bay in the East.

The existing rural health units, which serve the whole Municipality, are not enough to address the health and medical needs of the people of Pilar town. Indeed, it is sad that sometimes, patients who are in need of emergency treatment die before reaching the nearest hospital. Oftentimes, there is unnecessary loss of lives merely for the reason that medical staff and equipment are not available. This puts poor people living in rural areas in a

much disadvantageous position as compared to their other Filipino brothers who reside in urban areas. The time to bridge the wide gap between the rich and the poor is now.

In view of the foregoing and to solve the perennial problem of the townsfolk of Pilar who have to bring their patients somewhere else for treatment to the detriment of said patients, approval of this bill is earnestly requested.



ALBERT S. GARCIA

Jvr/Drbg

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE PILAR DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY
OF PILAR, PROVINCE OF BATAAN, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. There is hereby established, under the supervision of the Department of Health, a fifty (50)-bed capacity district hospital in the Municipality of Pilar, Province of Bataan, to be known as the Pilar District Hospital.

SECTION 2. The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,