

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 2687

Introduced by Hon. Tomas M. Dumpit

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The coverage of the law on veterans has been expanded to include not only war veterans but veterans of military campaigns, including their spouses and orphans. Thus, the existing facilities and equipment of the Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC) can no longer cope with the increasing number and needs of the veterans.

This bill seeks to modernize and upgrade the existing facilities of the VMMC through the VMMC Five-year Modernization Plan. The VMMC is envisioned to be equipped with modern health equipment and facilities that shall include well-trained medical staff and other personnel to attend to the health and other medical needs of the veterans. This is one way of showing our concern for, and acknowledgment of, the sacrifices and heroic deeds of our veterans.

Hence, in recognition of the heroism and bravery of the Filipino Veterans and to give meaning to the constitutional mandate, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

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AN ACT
UPGRADING THE EXISTING FACILITIES OF THE VETERANS MEMORIAL
MEDICAL CENTER (VMMC) THROUGH A FIVE-YEAR MODERNIZATION PLAN
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Five-year Modernization Plan – Within one year after the effectivity of this Act, the Director of the Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC) shall cause the preparation of the Five-year Modernization Plan for the VMMC.

SEC. 2. Implementation – The Director shall immediately implement the completed VMMC Five-year Modernization Plan. For this purpose, the Director of the VMMC is hereby authorized, subject to the provisions of existing laws and regulations including those of the Commission on Audit, and under such terms and conditions most favorable to the government, to enter into multi-year contracts and lease-purchase agreements. Provided, that the existing VMMC golf facilities shall not be affected or altered by the modernization plan. Provided further, that the revenue being derived from the golf facilities shall be retained and used for the operations of the golf facilities and for the VMMC modernization and operation, subject to existing laws and regulations, including those of the Commission on Audit.

SEC. 3. Loans, Donations and Other Contribution – The Director of the VMMC is hereby authorized to negotiate and secure loans from any financing institution using the allotted appropriation as collateral or security. He may also accept donations and other contributions for the VMMC modernization.

SEC. 4. Appropriation – The total amount of Two Billion Pesos (P2,000,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated for the VMMC Five-year Modernization Plan or Four Hundred Million Pesos (P400,000,000.00) each year for five (5) consecutive years from the effectivity of this Act.

SEC. 5. Effectivity Clause – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,