

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Thirteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2844



Introduce by Honorable Raul T. Gonzalez, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish a general hospital in Iloilo City, to be known as the Iloilo City General Hospital.

The constitution mandates that the State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development that shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the under privilege sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children. Finally, the State shall endeavor to provide free medical care to patients.

The existing hospitals in the City of Iloilo are all privately owned hospitals. Even the Western Visayas Medical Center, which serves the entire Region 6, cannot cope with the hospital needs of the thousands of poor patients in Iloilo City. As such, the urban poor, the people live below the poverty line of the city cannot afford to pay the charges imposed by these hospitals. Oftentimes, for lack of money for their hospitalization, patients are denied the proper medical attention they needed.

The proposed general hospital shall governed by a Board of Trustees composed of the Chairman of the Committee on Health of the Sangguniang Panlungsod, City Health Officer, a President of Iloilo Medical Society and the Association of Barangay Captains.

The establishment of a general hospital in the City of Iloilo is proposed in pursuant to the above constitutional; mandate. In view thereof, approval of this bill is earnestly urged.


RAUL T. GONZALEZ, JR.

Introduce by Honorable Raul T. Gonzalez, Jr.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE ILOILO CITY GENERAL HOSPITAL IN ILOILO CITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established, under the supervision of the Department of Health, the Iloilo City General Hospital in Iloilo City, hereinafter referred to as the Hospital.

SECTION 2. Powers of the General Hospital. For the attainment and/or furtherance of the purpose and objective of the hospital as a body corporate, acting through its Board of Trustees, it shall have the powers pertaining to a judicial person, and shall be authorized, among other things.

1. To acquire and hold, in any manner, property of whatever nature of description, and to dispose of such property under any mode of encumbrance or conveyance;
2. To contract and be contracted with;
3. To mortgage, lease, sell, transfer, convey or otherwise dispose of its properties;
4. To solicit and receive donations, endowments and funds in the form of contributions, whether in cash or in kind, from both the public and private sectors;
5. To open such accounts in banks and other financial institutions and to disburse such or invest the same as the Board may direct to accomplish or advance the purpose of the hospital.
6. To send the personnel of the hospital to research or medical institutes or universities for advance training or observation and to attend international or regional convention, conferences, congresses and seminars as the Board may deem necessary to accomplish the purpose and objective of the Hospitals;
7. To adopt a set of by – laws, rules and regulations not too inconsistent with law and the provisions hereof to govern the administration and operation of the affairs of the Hospital;
8. To do all such other acts and things as are or may be necessary or incidental for the accomplishment of the purpose and objective of the Hospital.

SECTION 3. The Hospital shall be administered by the Board of Trustees, hereinafter referred to as the Board, composed of the Chairman of the Committee on Health of the Sangguniang Panlungsod, City Health Officer of Iloilo City, a representative of the Mayor of Iloilo City, a representative from the Office of the Congressman of Iloilo City, President of the Iloilo Medical Society, the Association of Barangay Captains, President all of Iloilo City, and Urban Poor who shall be appointed by the Board upon recommendation of the urban poor in Iloilo City for a term of three years renewable for another term at the discretion of the Board.

The members of the Board shall not receive compensation except a per diem of one thousand pesos (1,000.00) for every meeting actually attended: Provided, that such per diems shall not exceed five thousand (5,000.00) during any one month for each member.

SECTION 4. Powers and duties of the Board. The Board shall have the following powers and duties:

- a) To formulate policies and adopt measures which are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act;
- b) To prescribe, amend, and repeal, its by-laws, rules and regulations governing the manner in which the general business of the hospital may be conducted And its power exercised:
- c) To provide for the appointment and removal and to fix reasonable compensation of such personnel as may be necessary for the effective conduct of the business of the Hospital;
- d) To perform such other functions as may be necessary to achieve the objective of this Act.

SECTION 5. Quorum – A majority of all members of the Board shall constitute a quorum to officially transact its business.

SECTION 6. Director of the Hospital – The Hospital shall have a director who shall be its Chief Executive Officer. He shall have the following powers and duties:

- a) To prepare the agenda for meeting of the Board and to submit for the consideration of the Board, policies and other important measures;
- b) To execute and administer the policies and measures approved by the Board;
- c) To direct and supervise the internal operations and administration of the Hospital.

The director shall be appointed by the Secretary of Health upon the recommendation of the Board and may be removed for cause. He shall serve for a term of five years with compensation to be fixed by the Board.

No person shall be appointed as Director unless he has extensive experience in the medical profession and is of unquestionable integrity and honesty.

SECTION 7. Staffing Pattern – The Board shall provide the staffing pattern for the Hospital and may be authorize the Director of the Hospital to appoint with the Board's approval and subject to Civil Service Rules and Regulations, such officers and employees as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 8. Government Contributions – The government shall contribute the necessary land, building, equipment and facilities to the Hospital.

SECTION 9. Tax Exemptions – All donations, contributions or endowment that may be made by entities or persons to the Hospital shall be exempt from income and gift taxes.

The Hospital shall be exempt from the payment of all taxes, charges and fees imposed by the government or any political subdivision or instrumentality there of for a period of ten years.

SECTION 10. Appropriations – The amount of one million pesos (1,000,000.00) for the initial operation and maintenance of the Hospital shall be charged to the appropriations for the Department of Health. Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary for the continued operation and maintenance of the Hospital shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 11. Auditing – The books and accounts of the Hospital shall be subject to periodic auditing by the Commission on Audit.

SECTION 12. Annual Report – The Hospital shall render to the Congress of the Philippines an Annual report of its activities and recommendations.

SECTION 13. Separability Clause – The provisions of this Act are hereby declared to be separable, and in the event any one or more of such provisions are held unconstitutional, they shall not affect the validity of the other provisions.

SECTION 14. Repealing Clause – All laws, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 15. Effectivity – This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved.