

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Thirteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3546

Introduced by Honorable JANETTE P. LORETO-GARIN, M.D.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to convert the San Joaquin Municipal Hospital in the Municipality of San Joaquin, Province of Iloilo into a tertiary hospital which shall function as an extension hospital of the Western Visayas Medical Center. This shall be under the direct control, supervision and management of the Department of Health.

San Joaquin Municipal Hospital was established to serve the fast growing population of the First District of Iloilo. It is located in the Municipality of San Joaquin which is about 54 kilometers from the City of Iloilo. It was envisioned to provide health services in Medicine, OB-Gyne, minor Surgery and Pediatrics to the residents of the First District of Iloilo. Due to its strategic location, it can also extend its services to the adjacent neighboring municipalities of Miag-ao, Tubungan and Igaras as well as the nearby areas of the Province of Antique and its municipalities like Dao, Hamtic and Anini-i.

However, up to now, the hospital is not operational because the local government do not have sufficient fund to provide for the operations, facilities and salary of the personnel of the hospital. All of these can only be achieved if it will be adequately provided and fully supported by the National Government.

With this bill, the San Joaquin Hospital shall be under the direct control and supervision of the Department of Health and function as an extension hospital of the Western Visayas Medical Center. It will be able to function as hospital in accordance with the purpose for which it was established. It will now be able to accommodate and handle various cases of referrals from nearby hospitals. It will have the required medical equipment and facilities, manpower and support to handle a greater range of medical and surgical conditions. Lastly, it will not only ease the increasing demand for accommodation in the Western Visayas Medical Center but will also assure the residents of the First District of Iloilo and the Province of Antique better patient care and immediate medical intervention at affordable cost. It will effectively qualify for medical

equipment and facilities. Most of all, it will be able to afford to pay competent medical specialists thus, meet the increasing demand of the area for accessible health care and services.

Hence, approval hereof is highly recommended.


JANETTE P. LORETO-GARIN, M.D.

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AN ACT
CONVERTING THE SAN JOAQUIN MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF SAN JOAQUIN, PROVINCE OF ILOILO, INTO A
TERTIARY HOSPITAL FUNCTIONING AS AN EXTENSION OF THE
WESTERN VISAYAS MEDICAL CENTER IN ILOILO CITY TO BE KNOWN
AS THE SAN JOAQUIN MEDICAL CENTER EXTENSION HOSPITAL AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

SECTION 1. The San Joaquin Municipal Hospital in the Municipality of San Joaquin, Province of Iloilo, is hereby converted into a tertiary hospital which shall function as an extension hospital of the Western Visayas Medical Center to be known as the San Joaquin Medical Center.

Sec. 2. The said extension hospital shall serve as a curative, training and medical research component of the Western Visayas Medical Center.

Sec. 3. The extension hospital shall be under the supervision of the Western Visayas Medical Center in accordance with its charter in coordination with the Department of Health.

Sec. 4. The amount necessary to carry for the effective implementation of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations for the Department of Health under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, it shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Sec. 5. This act shall take effect upon approval.

Approved