

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

Thirteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 4687



Introduced by Honorable Catalino V. Figueroa

EXPLANATORY NOTE

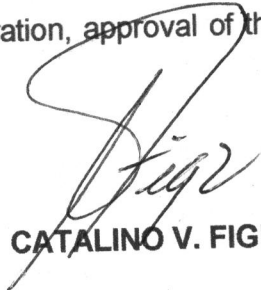
This bill seeks for the establishment of a ten (10)-bed capacity hospital in the Municipality of Zumarraga, Province of Samar.

The 1987 Constitution mandates the State to protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them. Towards this end, various programs and measures relative to health care services have been launched and implemented by the government. It is, however, unfortunate that despite sustained efforts by the national government to improve the country's primary health care and hospital services, the Municipality of Zumarraga does not have sufficient hospital services to meet the health requirements of its residents.

Zumarraga is an island-municipality in the Second District of Samar. Despite its increasing population, it has no hospital of its own to service the medical needs of the municipality and the outlying areas. The lack of hospital is reflected in the kinds of illnesses prevalent in the area which are pulmonary tuberculosis, broncho pneumonia, upper respiratory tract infection, influenza and parasitism. These diseases are curable but some of the residents of this town and outlying areas die of these diseases because of the absence of a hospital.

A provincial hospital in the Municipality of Catbalogan is an hour's boat ride away from Zumarraga. The inconvenience and hardship of bringing a patient to the capital town of the province are the reasons why this bill is being initiated. It is, therefore, not surprising that numerous emergency cases do not reach the provincial hospital at all. They succumb to death along the way. If ever they reach the provincial hospital, their health situations have already worsened. In many cases, some patients would rather die in their homes instead. This deplorable situation should not be allowed to continue. The health care needs of the populace should be the primary concern of the government.

In view of the foregoing consideration, approval of this bill is earnestly recommended.



CATALINO V. FIGUEROA

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**AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A TEN (10)-BED CAPACITY HOSPITAL IN
THE MUNICIPALITY OF ZUMARRAGA, PROVINCE OF SAMAR,
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established, under the supervision of the Department of Health, a ten (10)-bed capacity hospital in the Municipality of Zumarraga, Province of Samar.

SECTION 2. The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations for the Department of Health under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such sum as maybe necessary for the operation and maintenance of the ten (10)-bed capacity hospital shall be included in the annual budget of the Municipality of Zumarraga.

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

Approved,