

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session
4350

HOUSE BILL NO. _____

Introduced by **Representative EVELYN P. MELLANA**

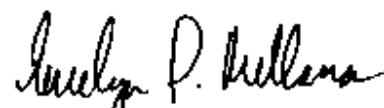
EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to expand the 10-bed capacity Loreto Municipal Hospital in Agusan del Sur to a 25-bed capacity primary hospital, and amending for this purpose *Batas Pambansa Bilang 435* entitled "An Act Providing for Establishment of a Ten-Bed Capacity Municipal Hospital in the Municipality of Loreto, Province of Agusan del Sur, to be Known as the Loreto Municipal Hospital."

The proposed measure will increase the capacity of the Loreto Municipal Hospital to provide quality basic health care services to the residents of the municipalities of Loreto, with a population (based on 2007 NSO Census) of 34,549 and an aggregate area of 158,742 hectares; and La Paz, with a population of 25,214 and an aggregate area of 131,186 hectares. The nearest hospital from these two municipalities is more than two hours away and even farther for the more serious cases, which have to be treated in tertiary hospitals in Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur, Davao del Norte or Davao City, where there are complete facilities and qualified health practitioners. It is noteworthy that in Loreto, the farthest barangay is about 60 kilometers from the town proper. Moreover, the road conditions in Loreto and La Paz are rough, at best, and severely poor and even treacherous, at worst. There is therefore a strong need to increase and strengthen the capacity of the Loreto Municipal Hospital, owing to its inaccessibility to the nearest major hospitals.

The people of Loreto and its neighboring municipalities have long been deprived of a responsive health care program. The economic difficulties of the people are exacerbated by a failure in the delivery of basic social services on the part of the government. The continued isolation of the people from much-needed basic health services makes it a necessity to improve the medical facility in Loreto, which this bill urgently seeks to accomplish.

Hence, early approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


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AN ACT EXPANDING THE 10-BED CAPACITY LORETO MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL INTO A 25-BED CAPACITY PRIMARY HOSPITAL, AMENDING BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 435, ENTITLED, "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A TEN-BED CAPACITY MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LORETO, PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL SUR, TO BE KNOWN AS THE LORETO MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL"

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

1 **SECTION 1.** The 10-bed capacity Loreto Municipal Hospital in the Municipality of Loreto,
2 Agusan del Sur is hereby expanded to a 25-bed capacity primary hospital which shall be
3 under the direct technical and administrative supervision of the Department of Health,
4 amending *Batas Pambansa Bilang 435*, entitled, "An Act providing for Establishment of a
5 Ten-Bed Capacity Municipal Hospital in the Municipality of Loreto, Province of Agusan del
6 Sur, to be Known as the Loreto Municipal Hospital."

7
8 **SECTION 2.** The Secretary of Health shall issue such rules and regulations as may be
9 necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act and shall immediately include in the
10 Department's programs the operationalization of the expanded Loreto Municipal Hospital.

11
12 **SECTION 3.** The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included
13 in the annual General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and
14 thereafter.

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16 **SECTION 4.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official
17 Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

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19 Approved,