

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

First Regular Session
SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

House Bill No. 240



Introduced by Rep. Maria Carmen S. Zamora

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article XIII, Section 11 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines states that "The State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the underprivileged sick, elderly, disabled, women and children. The State shall endeavor to provide free medical care to paupers."

Undoubtedly, the flesh and blood of the abovementioned constitutional provision are the government-owned hospitals especially those in the provinces. Due to the exorbitant price of health care, majority of our people depend on them for their medical needs and requirements.

The Davao Regional Hospital in Apokon, Tagum City, Davao del Norte is one of these medical institutions. Established by Republic Act No. 7179 on July 22, 1991, the hospital is a growing regional tertiary, training and teaching institution. Over the years, however, it has grown beyond the ambit of a 200-bed capacity hospital. Even its physical structure has substantially improved and expanded such that it can now accommodate twice its original bed capacity. The influx of patients especially indigents has become unstoppable. This 200-bed hospital now accommodates over 300 in-patients daily and it is expected that the figure will steadily rise in the coming years.

In this regard, there is an urgent need to pass a law increasing the bed capacity of the hospital from 200 to 500 beds to cope with the the increasing demand for its service.

Hence, this legislative measure's approval is timely, beneficial and necessary.

MARIA CARMEN S. ZAMORA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maria Carmen S. Zamora", written over the printed name.

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House Bill No. 00000 240

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AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE DAVAO REGIONAL
HOSPITAL FROM TWO HUNDRED (200) TO FIVE HUNDRED (500) BEDS AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. The authorized bed capacity of the Davao Regional Hospital, a national medical hospital created through Republic Act No. 7179, is hereby increased from two hundred (200) to five hundred (500) beds with concomitant manpower complement.

SEC. 2. The increase in the bed capacity of the Davao Regional Hospital from two hundred (200) to five hundred (500) beds shall be implemented for a period of not more than four years from the approval of this Act.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Health shall include in the Department's program the implementation of the increase in the bed capacity of the Davao Regional Hospital, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 4. All laws, decrees, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act shall be deemed amended or repealed accordingly.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,