

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 374

Introduced by: **REP. RAUL V. DEL MAR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to increase the bed occupancy of Vicente Sotto Memorial Medical Center located at B. Rodriguez Street, Cebu City from Eight Hundred (800) Beds to One Thousand two Hundred (1,200) Beds.

The Vicente Sotto Memorial Medical Center is the biggest government run medical center in Region VII. It is an 800 bed capacity hospital which does not only served patients from Metro Cebu and the Cities and the provinces of Region VII but also serves patients from Region VIII and parts of Mindanao. Because of the increasing cost of medical care in private hospitals and the lack of facilities and services in government district hospitals, more and more patients flock to VSMHC. Its hospital statistical data would reveal that the past ten years, its occupancy rate has been steadily increasing from 100% to 121.95%.

This proposed bill likewise go hand in hand with the present thrust of the Department of Health to provide universal health care among Filipinos dubbed as the "Kalusugang Pangkalahatan" that seek to address the three strategic thrust of: (1) financial risk protection through expansion of the national Health Insurance program coverage and benefit delivery; (2) health facilities enhancement to improve access to quality care and (3) a focused and scaled up public health effort to attain health related Millennium development goals.

While improving a hospital is a difficult task, this however, should not discourage the government in pursuing its commitment in improving the health of our countrymen specially the poor.

Although the Vicente Sotto Memorial Medical Center has continued to evolve and improve its basic and tertiary health care services responsive to the changing need of the community, its present capacity, however, will prevent the Medical Center from serving its increasing number of patients, which in effect defeat the very purpose of providing universal health care to as many patients as possible.

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


RAUL V. DEL MAR

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AN ACT
INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF VICENTE SOTTO MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER, LOCATED IN CEBU CITY, FROM EIGHT HUNDRED (800) TO ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED (1,200) BED CAPACITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE

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

SECTION 1. The bed capacity of Vicente Sotto Memorial Medical Center is hereby increased from Eight Hundred (800) to One Thousand two Hundred (1,200) beds.

SEC. 2. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SEC. 3. The Department of Health is directed to implement this Act.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,