

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

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2061



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE XAVIER JESUS "XJ" D. ROMUALDO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The late Representative Pedro P. Romualdo first filed this bill in the previous Congress. This bill was approved by the House of Representatives on third reading on August 6, 2012 and was transmitted to the Senate on August 16, 2012. However, it would seem that the Senate was unable to take action on the matter.

In 1995, under Republic Act No. 7938, the Northern Mindanao Regional Training Hospital in Cagayan de Oro City was upgraded and converted from a 200-bed capacity hospital to one having a 300-bed capacity. Accordingly, the Northern Mindanao Regional Training Hospital became the Northern Mindanao Medical Center (the "NMMC" or the "Center"). Since then, the NMMC has continued to provide satisfactory health care services to its clients. In fact, the NMMC has become the preferred facility for patients from Misamis Oriental, Misamis Occidental, Bukidnon, Camiguin, Lanao de Norte, and other neighboring provinces. Rural health units, district hospitals, and general hospitals in Northern Mindanao, and even in neighboring regions, refer many patients to the Center for a transfer of service. This is due to the strategic location of the NMMC and its core competencies in primary health care, invasive procedures, and emergency services. Indeed, the President, in his recent State of the Nation Address, cited the capability of the Center to perform open-heart surgery thus making the procedure readily available and less costly to those who need it in Mindanao.

However, with the constantly increasing influx of clients and patients, the current capacity of the NMMC is no longer adequate to meet such demand. The NMMC is in need of a Magnetic Resonance Imaging Machine, a standby 500 kilovolt-ampere generator, and additional ambulances. It also needs to upgrade its gas piping system. Furthermore, an upgrade of its facilities and professional capability to meet patient requirements for heart, lung, and kidney ailment cases is urgently needed.

An increase in the bed capacity of the NMMC from 300 to 1,000 is a step in the right direction of enabling the Center to meet the needs and demands of its growing number of clients. The upgrading of its facilities and equipment, as well as the provision of opportunities for the professional growth and development of its medical professionals and allied personnel, will ensure the continued availability of quality health services to the public.


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**AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE NORTHERN
MINDANAO MEDICAL CENTER IN CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY, AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7938, APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSE**

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

Section 1. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 7938 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 2. The hospital facilities of the Northern Mindanao Medical Center shall be upgraded and increased, consistent with the requirements of modern medical technology and its status as a medical center. Accordingly, its bed capacity shall be increased from [two hundred (200) to] three hundred (300) beds TO ONE THOUSAND (1,000) BEDS.

Section 2. Section 3 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 3. The number of medical personnel AND THE BUDGET FOR PERSONNEL SERVICES AND MAINTENANCE AND OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES of the Northern Mindanao Medical Center shall correspondingly be increased. THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, IN COORDINATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT, SHALL DETERMINE THE ADDITIONAL POSITIONS TO BE CREATED PURSUANT TO THIS ACT.

Section 3. Section 4 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 4. [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.] THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHALL IMMEDIATELY INCLUDE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S PROGRAMS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT, THE FUNDING OF WHICH SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT.

Section 5. All other laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby modified, amended or repealed accordingly.

Section 6. This act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after the completion of its publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,