

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

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3516



Introduced by **HON. RENE L. RELAMPAGOS**
First District, Bohol

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 11, Article XIII of the 1987 Constitution of the Philippines specifically provides: *"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 all the people at affordable cost."*

Initially known as the Bohol Provincial Hospital,¹ it opened on October 19, 1929 and was originally designed as a Regional Teaching and Training Hospital for Region VII.² It was then an eight (8) bed-capacity hospital. The hospital was later named Governor Celestino Gallares Memorial Hospital (GCGMH).³

To accommodate the increasing number of patients in Tagbilaran City and in the neighboring municipalities, the bed capacity was increased to one hundred fifty (150), then to two (200) hundred and finally to two hundred twenty five (225) beds under Republic Act No. 7266 which was enacted on March 20, 1992.

For more than twenty (20) years since the enactment of Republic Act 7266, however, the bed capacity of GCGMH has not changed despite the significant change in the number of patients being served by the hospital. Consequently, there is also a need to substantially improve the facilities and services of the hospital as a 'regional teaching and training hospital for Region VII.'

Hence, this bill seeks to increase the bed capacity of Governor Celestino Gallares Memorial Hospital (GCGMH) from two hundred twenty five (225) to five hundred twenty six (526) beds, amending for the purpose Republic Act 7266. In addition, this bill seeks the upgrading of medical facilities and equipment of this level 4 regional hospital.

In the light of the foregoing, the early passage of this bill is strongly recommended.


RENE LOPEZ RELAMPAGOS

¹ By virtue of Republic Act No. 3114

² pursuant to Administrative Order No. 38, series of 1980 by the Ministry of Health

³ per Batas Pambansa Blg. 640 dated 1984

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AN ACT
INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF GOVERNOR CELESTINO
GALLARES MEMORIAL HOSPITAL (GCGMH) IN TAGBILARAN CITY,
PROVINCE OF BOHOL FROM TWO HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE (225) TO
FIVE HUNDRED TWENTY SIX (526) BEDS AND UPGRADING ITS
SERVICES AND FACILITIES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7266, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Increase in Authorized Bed Capacity. – The authorized bed capacity of Governor Celestino Gallares Memorial Hospital (GCGMH) is hereby increased from two hundred twenty five (225) to five hundred twenty six (526) beds, amending for the purpose Republic Act No. 7266.

SEC. 2. Upgrade of Existing Service Facilities and Professional Health Care Services. – The existing service facilities and professional health care services of the GCGMH are hereby upgraded to conform with and be commensurate to the increase in authorized bed capacity as provided in Section 1 hereof. The GCGMH shall submit to the DOH its proposed development plan and the additional clinical departments and special units it requires to meet the increased authorized bed capacity.

SEC. 3. Implementation and Appropriation. – The Secretary of Health shall immediately include in the Department's programs the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 4. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,