

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4434



Introduced by Rep. Dale "Along" R. Malapitan

Explanatory Note

This bill seeks to increase the bed capacity intended for tertiary general hospital use of Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez Memorial Hospital and Sanitarium located in Tala, Caloocan City from two hundred (200) to eight hundred (800) beds, thereby amending the pertinent provisions of Republic Act No. 9420.

The Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez Memorial Hospital and Sanitarium, also referred to as Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez Memorial Hospital (DJNRMH), was established in 1940 as Central Luzon Sanitarium for the treatment of patients with leprosy. By virtue of Commonwealth Act No. 161, an eight hundred eight (808) hectares of land at Tala Estate was declared as reservation and resettlement area for hansenites and their immediate families. Currently, due to a change of policies, the area was reduced to one hundred thirty (130) hectares in order to accommodate previous homeless treated patients who eventually settled and established their own community therein.

In 1975, due to exigencies at the time, some wards of the hospital were opened to admit non-leprosy patients. By 1990, progressive expansion of services were effected by the hospital in order to meet the growing medical needs of the general public, concomitant with the leprosy treatment and control responsibilities of the institution. A re-direction of the sanitarium became imperative in 1993 which officially led to the delivery of medical services even to Non-Hansen patients. And in 2007, premised on the growing number of in-patients and out-patients needing tertiary health care, Republic Act No. 9420 was passed into law, converting two hundred (200) beds of the 2,000-bed Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez Memorial Hospital and Sanitarium for "Tertiary General Health Care."

At present, the hospital serves as the principal referral hospital for leprosy patients and the premier training and research center for leprosy care and management in Luzon. It also provides general care services to a large catchment population size covering that of Caloocan City, nearby areas of Quezon City and some municipalities of Bulacan. It conducts other services such as physical therapy, radiology, laboratory, medical-social services and assistance.

As of this year, since the commencement of President Rodrigo Duterte's administration and the provision of free OPD and ER Consultation, marked the sudden and sustained increased in the number of patients' treatment and the total number of admitted in-patients. Hereunder are some statistics provided by DJNRMH:

OPD CONSULTATIONS

2013	2014	2015	As of Sept. 2016
63,600	67,467	131,067	203,750

ER CONSULTATIONS

2013	2014	2015	As of Sept. 2016
55,333	60,728	66,385	59,537

REFERRALS

	2013	2014	2015	As of Sept. 2016
Referred Out	2,061	7,555	2,400	528
Referred In	337	320	720	942

RADIOLOGY

2013	2014	2015	As of Sept. 2016
14,253	17,165	18,755	19,585

ULTRASOUND

2013	2014	2015	As of Sept. 2016
4,114	3,901	5,023	4,025

LABORATORY

2013	2014	2015	As of Sept. 2016
345,436	313,289	413,337	375,565

NUMBER OF OPERATIONS

TYPE OF OPERATION	2014	2015	As of Sept. 2016
Elective	1,252	929	1,784
Emergency	771	2,755	3,104

NUMBER OF BIRTHS

2013	2014	2015	As of Sept. 2016
903	1,687	2,173	2192

A quick perusal of the above facts and statistics would easily impress the qualification of DJNRMH for an increase of its bed capacity for tertiary general health care. The consistent annual increase in the number of admitted patients which far exceeds the upper limit of 85% bed capacity rate as required by the principles and criteria set by the Department of Health in 2013 for evaluating proposals for increasing hospital bed capacity, and the large catchment population size the hospital serves are enough justifications for this piece of legislation to receive the esteemed support of Congress.

Thus, premised on the foregoing, it is the urgent appeal of the author that this measure be approved immediately.


HON. DALE "ALONG" R. MALAPITAN

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AN ACT

INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY FOR TERTIARY GENERAL HEALTH CARE OF DR. JOSE N. RODRIGUEZ MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AND SANITARIUM FROM TWO HUNDRED (200) TO EIGHT HUNDRED (800) BEDS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9420, ENTITLED "AN ACT CONVERTING TWO HUNDRED (200) BEDS OF THE 2,000-BED DR. JOSE N. RODRIGUEZ MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AND SANITARIUM FOR TERTIARY GENERAL HEALTH CARE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

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

SECTION 1. Section 1 of Republic Act 9420 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 1. [Two hundred (200)] **EIGHT HUNDRED (800)** beds of the 2,000-bed Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez Memorial Hospital and Sanitarium located in Tala, Caloocan City are hereby converted for tertiary general hospital use."

"THE INCREASE IN BED CAPACITY OF DR. JOSE N. RODRIGUEZ MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AND SANITARIUM FROM TWO HUNDRED (200) TO EIGHT HUNDRED (800) BEDS SHALL BE IMPLEMENTED FOR A PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN FOUR (4) YEARS FROM THE APPROVAL OF THIS ACT."

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

"SEC. 2. The Secretary of Health shall include in the Department's program the operationalization of the [two hundred (200)] **EIGHT HUNDRED (800)** beds of the 2,000-bed Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez Memorial Hospital and Sanitarium for tertiary general health care, the initial funding of which shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the hospital.

Thereafter, the funds necessary for its continued operation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.”

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,