

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Quezon City
17th Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4558



Introduced by Representative WES GATCHALIAN

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippine Constitution provides that *"The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them"*.

Also, Art. XIII, Sec. 11, in particular 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 all the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the under-privileged, sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children. The State shall endeavor to provide free medical care to paupers"*.

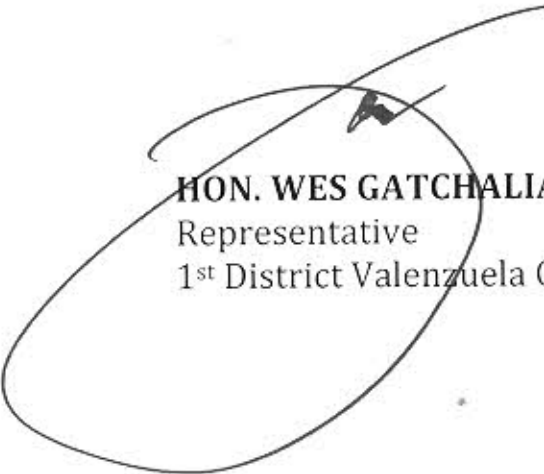
Accordingly, the government must ensure that specialty hospitals (level 3) should be widely distributed geographically across the country being an archipelagic country instead of its concentration in the National Capital Region.

It calls for the decentralization of hospital services, particularly that of the Philippine Lung Center whose establishment was aimed at providing the Filipino people the state-of-the-art specialized care for lung and other chest diseases.

It is worth noting that the National TB Control Program (NTP) surveillance data for the period 2003 to 2011 reveals that the Philippines is one of the highest tuberculosis (TB) burden countries in the world. Though significant progress has been achieved, there is still an urgent need to provide effective pulmonary care to patients and vulnerable groups such as the urban and rural poor particularly in the Visayas and Mindanao region.

Hospitals are among the primary social facilities that developing communities should have. By providing an arm of the Philippine Lung Center in Visayas and Mindanao, the bill hopes for constituents of the Visayas and Midanao regions to feel the presence of the national government in their midst. Though there have been continuous efforts by the national government and state agencies in addressing lung-related maladies, there is still a handful of Filipino citizens who do not have the financial means to travel and consult with medical experts in Metro Manila. Thus, through this bill, we hope to address this wreaking problem of insufficient medical hospitals all over the Philippine archipelago.

The immediate passage of this bill is earnestly requested.



HON. WES GATCHALIAN
Representative
1st District Valenzuela City

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE VISAYAS AND MINDANAO HOSPITAL FACILITIES OF
THE LUNG CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINE, AMENDING FOR THAT PURPOSE
PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1832, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR , AND
OTHER PURPOSES.

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

Section 1. Section 1 of Presidential Decree No. 1832, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 1. *Creation of the Lung Center of the Philippines.* There is hereby created a trust, under the name and style of Lung Center of the Philippines, which shall be administered, according to the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws and Objectives of the Lung Center of the Philippines, Inc., duly registered (reg. No. 85886) with the Securities and Exchange Commission of the Republic of the Philippines, by the Office of the President, **in coordination with the Department of Health.**

The Foundation shall have its hospital facilities and principal office in Metro Manila, and shall establish branch hospitals, in Cebu City for Visayas and Davao City for Mindanao.

Section 2. *Funding.* To carry out the purpose of this Act, including the operation of LCP-Visayas, and the LCP-Mindanao, the land acquisition, construction, and the acquisition of hospital equipments, furniture and fixtures, the sum of Five Hundred Million

(500,000,000.00) pesos for each hospital is hereby appropriated. Thereafter the expenses for the LCP-Visayas and LCP-Mindanao shall be provided in the General Appropriations Acts intended for the Lung Center of the Philippines.

Section 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Board of Foundation shall formulate the implementing rules and regulations to carry out the implementation of this Act.

Section 4. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Section 5. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or portions thereof, inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 6. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect on the day following its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Adopted,