

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Quezon City, Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4824



Introduced by Representative Rodrigo A. Abellanos

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Pursuant to the government's thrust of providing accessible health and medical care for Filipinos, specifically for the less privileged, this bill seeks to increase the bed capacity of St. Anthony Mother and Child Hospital (SAMCH) in Brgy. Basak San Nicolas, Cebu City, from twenty-five (25) to one hundred (100).

SAMCH, located within a 5-km. radius from the Cebu City Hall, is a Level II Specialty Hospital for OB-Gyne and Pediatrics created under Republic Act No. 7830. It started operations in 1991 and to date, has a 25-bed authorized capacity and has 8 medical staff available to attend to patient needs.

A geographic and demographic analysis shows a hospital catchment population of 150,000. This means that there is only one bed in SAMCH available for every 6,000 Filipinos who may need confinement and one medical staff for every 18,750 Filipinos. In 2015, records show that SAMCH has rendered 10,771 in-patient service days, or an average of 29 in-patients per day, 16% beyond its 25-bed capacity.

The necessary physical structure and capacity has been set in place through the efforts of both the Department of Health (DOH) and the city government but the annual operating budget allocation remains prohibitive in terms of accommodating the growing medical requirements of the area. The DOH Region VII, in fact, has consistently been pushing for the increase in bed capacity that is being sought in this bill.

Since it is only a 25-bed hospital, SAMCH has very limited capability not only in terms of bed capacity and personnel resources, but in terms of facilities and supplies as well, it is forced to refer other patients to the Vicente Sotto Memorial Medical Center and other private hospitals in the city. This becomes a problem for many indigents who make up a large majority of SAMCH patients. They are often deprived the necessary medical attention because SAMCH cannot accommodate them.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

RODRIGO A. ABELLANOSA

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AN ACT
INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF ST. ANTHONY MOTHER AND CHILD HOSPITAL
IN CEBU CITY, FROM TWENTY-FIVE (25) TO ONE HUNDRED (100),
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. The capacity of St. Anthony Mother and Child Hospital is hereby increased from twenty-five (25) to one hundred (100) beds.

SEC. 2. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations for the Department of Health under the current General Appropriations Act and thereafter included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

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,