

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



Seventeenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **5324**

**Introduced by Representative Karlo Alexei B. Nograles and
Representative Jericho Jonas B. Nograles**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to increase the bed capacity of Southern Philippines Medical Center (SPMC) in Davao City from one thousand two hundred (1,200) to one thousand five hundred (1,500) beds, upgrade its professional health care services, facilities and authorize the increase of its medical personnel.

Section 11, Article XIII of the 1987 Constitution which deals with Social Justice and Human Rights, provides:

"SEC. 11. 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 underprivileged sick, elderly, disabled, women and children. The State shall endeavor to provide free medical and care to paupers."

The SPMC is a DOH-retained, level 3, general and trauma capable hospital that has, at present, an authorized bed capacity of one thousand two hundred (1,200) with bed occupancy rate of 136.22% and 139.40% in 2015 and 2016 respectively. As a government hospital with good medical facilities, equipment and instruments, it has become the primary choice of patients, which are mostly indigents, underprivileged and marginalized. SPMC is situated in a strategic part of Mindanao and as such, its patients are coming from nearly all parts of Mindanao.

Due to influx of patients, the bed capacity of SPMC has once been increased from six hundred (600) to one thousand two hundred (1,200) beds in 2009 by virtue of Republic Act No. 9792. Since 2009, the population of Mindanao has substantially increased and keeps on growing. Thus, there is a need to, once again, increase the SPMC's authorized bed capacity as well as its medical personnel and other manpower complement, service facilities, equipment and instruments. Total admissions reported by SPMC in 2015 and 2016 are 66,463 and 75,004 patients, respectively.

Currently, SPMC is actually operating at one thousand four hundred fifty-three (1,453) beds but the same is still not enough to accommodate the influx of patients. In addition, SPMC suffers from the lack of medical personnel and other manpower complement which affects, in one way or another, the quality of care it provides. SPMC has, at present, three (3) new buildings yet to be occupied which can accommodate a total of three hundred eight (308) beds.

Though SPMC has three (3) new buildings which can accommodate additional three hundred (300) beds, it is helpless and cannot institute the same for lack of authority. Further, additional beds require additional medical personnel, facilities and equipment. With the proposed upgrade, SPMC can better address the health needs of the people of Davao and other parts of Mindanao.

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



KARLO ALEXEI B. NOGRALES



JERICO JONAS B. NOGRALES

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AN ACT

**INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES
MEDICAL CENTER IN DAVAO CITY FROM ONE THOUSAND TWO
HUNDRED (1,200) TO ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED (1,500) BEDS,
UPGRADING ITS PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES AND
FACILITIES, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS MEDICAL
PERSONNEL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

3
4 SECTION 1. The authorized bed capacity of the Southern Philippines
5 Medical Center in Davao City is hereby increased from One thousand two hundred
6 (1,200) to One thousand five hundred (1,500) beds.

7 SEC. 2. The existing professional health care services and facilities of
8 the Southern Philippines Medical Center are hereby upgraded to conform and be
9 commensurate to the increase in its authorized bed capacity as provided for in
10 Section 1 hereof.

1 SEC. 3. The existing workforce of the Southern Philippines Medical
2 Center shall also be correspondingly increased. The Department of Health shall, in
3 coordination with the Department of Budget and Management and Civil Service
4 Commission, and after consultation with the Southern Philippines Medical Center,
5 determine the additional plantilla positions to be created and filled up.

6 SEC. 4. The increase in bed capacity of the Southern Philippines
7 Medical Center from One thousand two hundred (1,200) to One thousand five
8 hundred (1,500) beds shall be implemented for a period of not more than two (2)
9 years from the approval of this Act.

10 SEC. 5. The Secretary of Health shall immediately include in the
11 Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall
12 be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

13 SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
14 in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

15 Approved,