



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

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **5490**

Introduced by Congresswoman MARIA VIDA ESPINOSA BRAVO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution provides that “the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill consciousness among them.” It is then the obligation of the State to enhance the delivery of health services to the people.

This bill seeks to re-nationalize the district hospitals in Ticao and Burias Islands, Masbate and place the same under the supervision and control of the Department of Health (DOH).

The Local Government Code of 1991 was promulgated with the laudable objective of providing for more responsive and accountable services to the public. In pursuit thereof, health services were devolved to the local government units (LGU). Thus, the district hospitals were placed under the supervision and control of the provincial government. But it must also be emphasized that it is the national government, through the Department of Health (DOH), which has the proven expertise to manage these hospitals and to maximize the use of their resources for the benefit of the patients served by such hospitals.

The First (1st) District of Masbate composed of Ticao and Burias Islands respectively currently has (2) two District Hospitals namely the Ticao District Hospital and the Claveria District Hospital. These hospitals reportedly lack the proper facilities to provide sufficient medical services to the constituency of the whole district. While hospitals throughout the country are being upgraded and modernized, these hospitals instead were downgraded. The absence of sufficient

diagnostic tools, competent personnel and specialized medical services resulted in the failure of the said hospitals to serve the needs of the constituency.

The inability of these hospitals to competently handle sensitive and complicated medical cases and the routine advise from the said hospitals to seek medical attention outside of Ticao and Burias Island which normally it takes (3 to 4 hours) to get to Legazpi City, Albay (from Ticao Island) and still (3 to 4 hours) to get to Naga City, Camarines Sur (from Burias Island) respectively, to arrive to the nearest hospital that could readily accommodate a patient.

Hence, this humble Representation saw that the situation of the (2) district hospitals in the First District of Masbate are just but one that needs an immediate return to the control, management and supervision to the Department of Health (DOH).

In view of the foregoing, immediate passage of this Bill is earnestly sought.



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AN ACT
RE-NATIONALIZING THE TICAO AND CLAVERIA DISTRICT HOSPITALS
LOCATED IN TICAO AND BURIAS ISLAND, MASBATE, PLACING THE
SAME UNDER THE CONTROL, MANAGEMENT AND SUPERVISION OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1. Both the District hospitals located in the First District
of Masbate, namely the Ticao District Hospital and the Claveria District Hospital
collectively referred to as district hospitals are hereby re-nationalized and placed
under the direct control, management and supervision of the Department of Health.

SECTION 2. All records, assets, liabilities and personnel shall
revert back to the National Government.

SECTION 3. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of
this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following
its enactment into law and thereafter.

SECTION 4. The Secretary of the Department of Health (DOH)
shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective
implementation of this Act.

SECTION 5. If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provisions not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 6. All decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with any provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,