



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

Third Regular Session

House Bill No. **7893**



Introduced by Representative Jose Enrique S. Garcia III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Municipality of Mariveles is the most populous municipality in the province of Bataan. It is host to the Freeport Area of Bataan, the fastest growing Freeport among all Investment Promotion Agencies in the country, whose investors employ nearly 40,000 workers. With its growing population and workforce, medical facilities and health services in Mariveles have become severely inadequate. Other than a small private hospital, clinics and public health centers, the nearest general hospital is about 46 kilometers away in Balanga City.

Mariveles is also host to the Mariveles Mental Hospital (MMH), a 500-bed Custodial Psychiatric Care Facility directly supervised by the Regional Health Director. The MMH serves as the mental health provider for Central Luzon and the surrounding provinces of Pangasinan, La Union, Benguet and even Metro Manila. Over the years, the MMH has long set its sight to become Philhealth accredited but remained unable to obtain one because of lack of facility for general ward accommodation.

The foregoing circumstances present a propitious opportunity to swiftly address the dire need for efficient and affordable medical care and health services of the residents of Mariveles and nearby municipality by expanding the services and upgrading the facilities of MMH to include the operation of a Level 1 general ward with 100 bed capacity. They likewise pave the way for MMH to become a Philhealth accredited medical facility. To reflect the expanded and upgraded services and to stem the stigma typically associated with a mental health facility, the MMH is further proposed to be renamed as Mariveles Health and Wellness Institute.

Support for this bill is earnestly sought from my colleagues.


REP. JOSE ENRIQUE S. GARCIA III
Second District, Bataan



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AN ACT EXPANDING AND UPGRADING THE SERVICES OF THE MARIVELES MENTAL HOSPITAL IN MARIVELES, BATAAN, TO INCLUDE THE OPERATION OF A LEVEL 1 GENERAL WARD WITH 100 BED CAPACITY, RENAMING THE SAME AS MARIVELES HEALTH AND WELLNESS INSTITUTE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **SECTION 1.** The services of the Mariveles Mental Hospital in Mariveles,
2 Bataan, is hereby expanded and upgraded to include the operation of a Level 1
3 general ward with 100 bed capacity. For this purpose, the Mariveles Mental Hospital
4 is hereby renamed as Mariveles Health and Wellness Institute.

5 **SECTION 2.** The amount necessary for the expanded operation of the institute,
6 including the acquisition of additional medical equipment and facilities, the
7 construction of needed infrastructure and the inclusion of additional medical personnel
8 shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the Department of Health.
9 Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for its continued operations shall be
10 included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

11 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Health shall issue the rules and regulations
12 necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

13 **SECTION 4.** This Act shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

14 ***Approved.***