

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8392



Introduced by REPS. ENRICO A. PINEDA, MICHAEL ODYLON L. ROMERO, PhD.,
RICARDO "RJ" T. BELMONTE, SABINIANO S. CANAMA, RON P. SALO,
BENHUR B. LOPEZ, JR., TOMASITO S. VILLARIN, ANICETO BERTIZ,
TEODORO G. MONTORO, SALVADOR B. BELARO, JR., BENHUR B. LOPEZ, JR.,
VIRGILIO S. LACSON, MAKMOD D. MENDING, CARLOS ROMAN L. UYBARRETA,
ORESTES T. SALON and MANUEL LUIS T. LOPEZ

EXPLANATORY NOTE

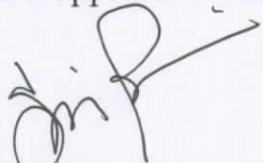
Of all the illnesses, cancer would be among the top if not the topmost one surely dreads to be diagnosed with. This is because cancer is considered as one of the leading causes of death in the world and is the most dreaded of all diseases. Roughly 14 million are diagnosed to have it yearly and around 8 million people die of the disease annually worldwide, according to a 2012 World Health Organization (WHO) report.

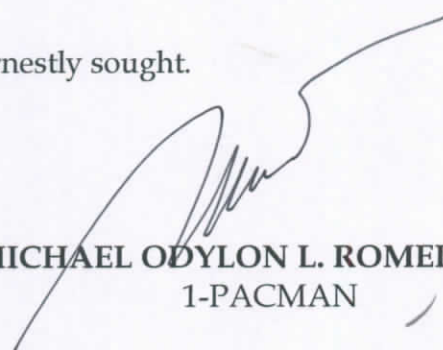
For us Filipinos, cancer needs no definition. We do not care that it is a disease that is caused by an abnormal growth of certain cells called tumors which becomes invasive and spreads throughout the other organs in the body, disrupting their normal functions. To many, cancer equates to death and all we want to know is that we and none of our loved ones have it.

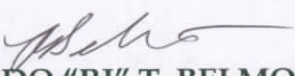
Cancer is considered a priority amongst the many dreaded diseases in the country. Along with cardiovascular disease, diabetis milletus and chronic respiratory illnesses, it is considered by the Department of Health (DOH) as an epidemic, needing special attention for comprehensive research and study. In response to that, the government revisited its Philippine Cancer Control Program of 1990 which led to the development of the National Cancer Prevention and Control Action Plan 2015-2020 which underlines among others the importance of cancer awareness and treatment management.

However, without a dedicated institute that would oversee, the continuity of the national program on cancer will be subject to the priorities of the dispensation at the helm of the agency in charge of national health. Not that the proponents believe that not much emphasis is being given to cancer prevention and cure by the present and previous administrations, it is seen that there is a need for an agency which specific and primary focus is the advocacy of cancer awareness and treatment. In this regard, this bill proposes the creation of the Philippine Cancer Center which will be responsible for the overall management of the advocacies of the government related with cancer research, prevention and treatment.

Immediate approval of this measure is earnestly sought.


ENRICO A. PINEDA
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RICARDO "RJ" T. BELMONTE
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SABINIANO S. CANAMA
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RON P. SALO
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BENHUR B. LOPEZ, JR.
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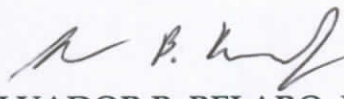


TOMASITO S. VILLARIN
AKBAYAN

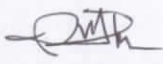
ANICETO BERTIZ
ACTS-OFW



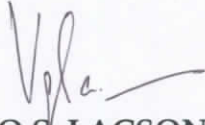
TEODORO G. MONTORO
AASENSO



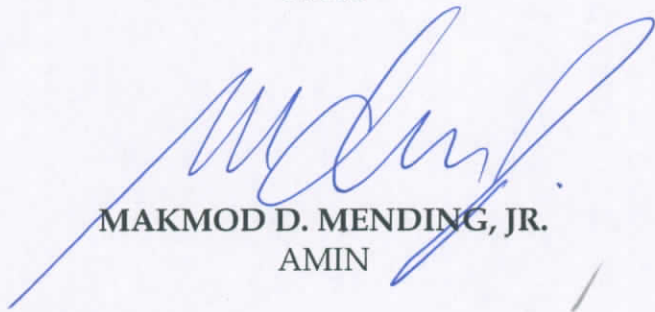
SALVADOR B. BELARO, JR.
1-ANG EDUKASYON



ORESTES T. SALON
AGRI



VIRGILIO S. LACSON
MANILA TEACHERS



MAKMOD D. MENDING, JR.
AMIN



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1st District, MANILA

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
House Bill No. 8392

Introduced by REPS. ENRICO A. PINEDA, MICHAEL ODYLON L. ROMERO, PhD.,
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**AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE CANCER CENTER,
PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title* – This Act shall be known as the "Philippine Cancer Center Act of 2016"

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy* – It is hereby declared as the policy of the State to secure the well-being of the people by providing them with specialized health services that targets the eradication of deadly diseases in the country. Towards this end and recognizing the threat of cancer to Filipinos, a center that would specifically focus on the study of the prevention and treatment of this disease shall be established.

SECTION 3. *Philippine Cancer Center.* – There is hereby created a trust, for the benefit primarily of the Filipino people, under the name and style of "Philippine Cancer Center".

The Philippine Cancer Center shall be administered by a Board of Trustees, composed of Seven (7) members, to be appointed by the President of the Philippines. The Director of the center shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees.

The six appointive members of the Boards of Trustees shall serve without compensation for a period of four (4) years and until their successors have been appointed. Any vacancy in the Board shall be filled by appointment by the President of the Philippines, and the appointee shall serve for the unexpired term. The Board of Trustees of the Philippine Cancer Center shall elect a Chairman from among themselves, who shall be the presiding officer of the Board of Trustees.

The Director of the Philippine Cancer Center shall serve as Vice- Chairman of the Board. The Director shall act as the Chief Executive Officer of the Philippine Cancer Center, with authority, among others, to appoint, remove and fix the compensation of the personnel thereof, subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees and in accordance with Republic Act No. 10149, otherwise known as the "GOCC Governance Act of 2011".

Four (4) Members of the Board of Trustees shall constitute a quorum to transact business and any decision made by four (4) members on any matter duly presented to the Board of Trustees shall constitute a valid and binding act of the Philippine Cancer Center.

SECTION 4. *Purpose and Objectives* - the Philippines Cancer Center shall have the following purpose and objectives;

- a. To construct, establish, operate and maintain a cancer center for the public welfare, including a specialized cancer hospital;
- b. To promote, encourage and engage in scientific research on the prevention of cancer and the care and/or treatment of cancer patients and related activities, including sponsorship and conduct of relevant congresses, conventions, seminars, and conferences;
- c. To stimulate and/or underwrite scientific researches on the biological, demographic, social, economic, physiological aspects of cancer, its abnormalities and control; and gather, compile, and publish the findings of such researches for public dissemination;
- d. To facilitate and encourage the dissemination and exchange of ideas and information on the prevention, treatment and control of cancer, to arouse, enhance and develop public interest on cancer awareness, general health and physical fitness;
- e. To encourage and/or undertake the training of physicians, nurses, medical technicians, health officers and social workers on the practical and scientific conduct and implementation of cancer healthcare services, and related activities;
- f. To assist universities, hospital and research institutions in their studies of cellular anomalies, to encourage advance training on matters of, or affecting the human cell, related fields and to support educational programs of value to general health;
- g. To encourage the formation of other organizations on the national provincial city, municipal or barangay level and to coordinate their various efforts and activities for the purpose of achieving a more effective programmatic approach on the common problems relative to the objectives herein enumerated; and
- h. To extend medical services to the general public, especially the poor and less fortunate in life who are suffering from cancer.

SECTION 5. *Powers of the Philippine Cancer Center.* - The Philippine Cancer Center, as a corporate body acting through its Board of Trustees, shall have the following powers:

- a. To acquire and hold in any property of whatever nature or description, and to dispose of such property under any mode of encumbrance or conveyance;
- b. To contract and be contracted with;
- c. To mortgage, lease, sell, transfer, convey or otherwise dispose of its properties;
- d. To solicit and receive donations, endowments and funds in the form of contributions, whether in cash or in kind, from both the public and private sectors;
- e. To open such accounts in banks and other financial institutions, and to disburse such funds or invest the same as the Board may direct to accomplish or advance the purposes or interest of the Philippine Cancer Center;
- f. To invite foreign cancer specialists and similar experts in the various medical fields to train the personnel or trainees or residents of the Philippine Cancer Center;
- g. To send the personnel of the Philippine Cancer Center to research institutes, medical institutes or universities for advance training or observation and to attend international or regional conventions, conferences, congresses, seminars as the Board may deem necessary to accomplish the purposes and objectives of the Philippine Cancer Center;

- h. To adopt a set of by-laws, rules and regulations not inconsistent with law and the provisions hereof to govern the administration and operation of the affairs of the Philippine Cancer Center; and
- i. To do all such other acts and things as are or may be necessary or incidental for the accomplishment of the purpose and objectives of the Philippine Cancer Center.

SECTION 6. *Government Contribution.* – The government shall constitute the necessary land, building, equipment and facilities, to the Philippine Cancer Center, and shall pay such obligations for real, personal and mixed properties arising from such undertaking under a deferred payment arrangement within five (5) years, at a preferred rate of interest.

SECTION 7. *Property of the Center.* – The property of the Philippine Cancer Center shall consist of such real, personal, mixed, and other type of property, now owned or reserved for, or may hereafter be given, donated, acquired, transferred or conveyed to, the Philippine Cancer Center by the Philippine Government, its branches and instrumentalities, any foreign government, as well as by trust, foundations, corporations, or persons, alien or domestic, in order to carry out its purposes and objectives as set forth herein.

SECTION 8. *Assistance from Other Government Offices.* – The Philippine Cancer Center may call upon any department, bureau, office, agency or instrumentality of the Government, including government-owned or controlled corporations, for such assistance as it may need in the pursuit of its purposes and objectives.

SECTION 9. *Tax Exemptions.* – All donations, contributions or endowments which may be made by entities or persons to the Philippine Cancer Center shall be exempt from income and donor's taxes, and the same shall be further deductible in full for purposes of computing the maximum amount deductible under Section 101 of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended.

The Philippine Cancer Center shall also be exempt from the payment of all taxes, charges and fees imposed by the government or any political subdivision or instrumentality thereof for a period of ten (10) years.

SECTION 10. *Appropriation.* – An amount of *FIVE HUNDRED MILLION PESOS* (P500,000,000.00) shall be allocated for the initial operation and maintenance of the Philippine Cancer Center which shall be sourced from the Contingent Fund. Subsequent subsidy for the years thereafter shall be included in the General Appropriations Act under the Budgetary Support for Government Corporations.

SECTION 11. *Audit.* – The books and accounts of the Philippine Cancer Center shall be subject to periodic auditing by the Commission on Audit.

SECTION 12. *Annual Report.* – The Philippine Cancer Center shall render to the President of the Philippines an annual report of its activities and recommendations.

SECTION 13. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within ninety days (90) after the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Health and the Department of Budget and Management shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

SECTION 14. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is subsequently declared unconstitutional, the validity of the remaining provisions hereof shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 15. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 16. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after is publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation or in the Official Gazette.

Approved,