

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Seventeenth Congress
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8856



Introduced by **Representative JOEY SARTE SALCEDA**

AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY of the BICOL REGIONAL TRAINING AND TEACHING HOSPITAL (BRTTH) FROM 250 TO 800, UPGRADING ITS FACILITIES AND AUGMENT ITS HOSPITAL STAFF, AND ITS OPERATIONS ACCORDINGLY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Bicol Regional Training and Teaching Hospital (BRTTH) is currently a 250-bed capacity general hospital servicing the Bicolanos for more than 100 years. Having just celebrated its centennial anniversary, from its humble beginning as a US army barracks hospital, it has evolved into the “PGH of Bicol, apex hospital, it being the referral hospital in the region. Geographically located in the center of Bicol, the hospital has the provinces of Albay, Sorsogon, Masbate, Camarines Sur and Catanduanes as its catchment area. The continued development of the City of Legazpi and its neighboring provinces coupled with the increase in population must also be proportionate with the capacity to provide the medical needs of the people.

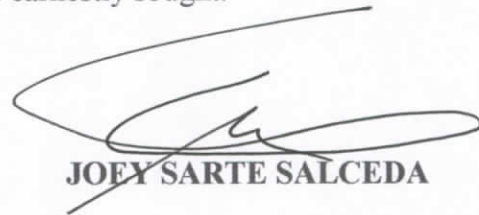
BRTTH, even with its limited capacity and resources, has been expanding its services to meet the demand of the Bicolanos. Coping up with the DOH mandate to become the Heart, Lung and Kidney Center and recently as Cancer Center, it has expanded its accreditation to PHIC Z benefits in order to attain President Duterte’s Philippine Health Agenda 2016-2022 of “All for Health Towards Health for All.” These centers will cater to the entire region being the sole provider of this chronic illnesses. It is therefore expected that with these services, it will result to an increase in patients served.

The hospital is an ISO certified institution since 2012 and currently working on its Strategic Plans based on the Philippine Governance System. BRTTH also garnered the Gawad Kalasag national award, ranked best hospital as evaluated by DOH and is an accredited Level 3 research institution by the Philippine Health Research Ethics Board (PHREB) and internationally recognized by SIDCER (Strategic Initiative for Developing Capacity in Ethical Review) and by FERCAP (Forum for Ethical Review Committees in Asia & the Western Pacific) on its health-related research activities.

A Regional Development Council endorsement in 2004 and 2012 for its upgrading to 600 bed capacity are no longer appropriate due to expansion of facilities and services having broken the 600 mark of patients in a day with over 200% Bed Occupancy Rate, in 2014. It has however, gradually adopted its development plan with the new services offered and in upgrading the facilities and augmentation of its personnel. The 800-bed capacity are allocated for the general hospital (600) while the 200 beds are earmarked for the specialty and subspecialty services.

In view of the foregoing, the upgrading of Bicol Regional Training and Teaching Hospital to Bicol Regional Multi-Specialty Training and Teaching Hospital with 800 Bed Capacity is timely and in accordance with the Department of Health's program thrusts on health service delivery being accessible to all.

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



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

Section 1. *Converting BRTTH into a General Special and Subspecialty Hospital.* - The Bicol Regional Training and Teaching Hospital (BRTTH) is hereby converted into a General and Subspecialty Hospital, thereby amending R.A. 8051.

Section 2. *Increase in Authorized Bed Capacity.* - The authorized bed capacity of BRTTH is hereby increased from two hundred fifty (250) to eight hundred (800) beds.

Section 3. *Upgrading of existing service facilities and Professional Health Care Services.* - The existing service capabilities, professional health care services, hospital human resource and operational budget of the BRTTH shall be upgraded and increased to conform to its new authorized bed capacity. The Department of Health (DOH), Department of Budget and Management (DBM), Civil Service Commission (CSC) and BRTTH shall determine the facility needs and its operational requirement, in determining the additional *plantilla* positions to be created.

Section 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* The Secretary of Health shall issue such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this Act.

Section 5. *Appropriation.* 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 6. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,