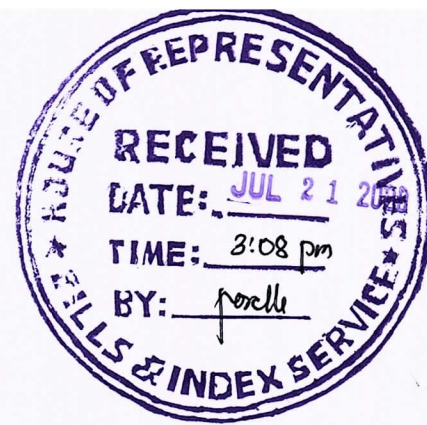


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF THE REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 7146

Introduced by: **HON. KRISTINE SINGSON**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish a tertiary hospital under the full and direct control, supervision and management of the Department of Health to be known as the Ilocos Sur Medical Center located in the City of Candon, Ilocos Sur.

One of the most crucial challenges in Ilocos Sur is the unavailability of tertiary level hospitals (level 3 category hospital), especially for patients coming from indigent families and it is the only province among the 4 provinces in Region I that doesn't have a DOH Operated Hospital. The opening of Ilocos Sur Medical Center would complement and operationalize the passage of the Universal Health Care Act as an End Referral Hospital in the Province of Ilocos Sur. It would effectively close the gap in the region's need for hospital bed capacity, as well as ensure wider access to affordable and quality healthcare services particularly in Ilocos Sur and the province of Abra. Health care service gaps have been blamed as one of the causes of deaths in the region. For instance, the nearest tertiary level hospital care service in Candon City is two or more hours away in Mariano Marcos Memorial Hospital and Medical Center in Batac City, Ilocos Norte and San Fernando City's Ilocos Training and Regional Medical Center. It is imperative that the province gets its own tertiary hospital to close that gap and to cater to the healthcare needs of the people in the area.

With this bill's approval and passage, constituents from Ilocos Sur and the nearby towns from nearby provinces including La Union, Abra and Mountain Province, will be served with accessible and better-quality healthcare services. In this light, the approval of this Bill is earnestly sought.

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HOUSE BILL NO. 7146

Introduced by: **HON. KRISTINE SINGSON**

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING
A TERTIARY HOSPITAL UNDER THE CONTROL, SUPERVISION, AND
MANAGEMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN THE CITY OF
CANDON, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS SUR TO BE KNOWN AS THE ILOCOS
SUR MEDICAL CENTER, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

Section 1. There shall be established a Tertiary Level Care Hospital (Level 3 Category Hospital), known as the Ilocos Sur Medical Center, with a minimum capacity of two hundred (200) beds, to be located in the City of Candon, province of Ilocos Sur, under the direct supervision and control of the Department of Health (DOH).

Section 2. The DOH shall develop a hospital development plan to reflect the developmental goals of the hospital. Any future increase in bed capacity, and upgrading of healthcare services and facilities shall be based on the hospital development plan.

Section 3. The Department of Health shall formulate the necessary guidelines for its operation as a tertiary hospital and ensure funding for the acquisition of the land on which the hospital will be established, the construction of the hospital buildings and other complementary infrastructure, facilities and medical equipment as well as for the costs for the necessary maintenance and personal services.

Section 4. The Secretary of Health shall immediately include in the Department's programs the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be charged against the current year's unappropriated balance of the Department of Health. An appropriation of Three Hundred Fifty Million Pesos (P 350,000,000.00) for PS Appropriation shall be included in the General Appropriations Act for the implementation of this Act, and One Hundred Million Pesos (P 100,000,000.00) for MOOE thereafter for four (4) years or until the provisions of this Act are fully implemented is hereby set aside for the purpose of this Act. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the continued operation of the Ilocos Sur Medical Center shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Section 5. Within sixty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOH shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for its effective implementation.

Section 6. If any part or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts for provisions hereof which are not affected shall continue to remain in full force and effect.

Section 7. All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act are deemed amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 8. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following completion of its publication in the Official Gazette and in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.