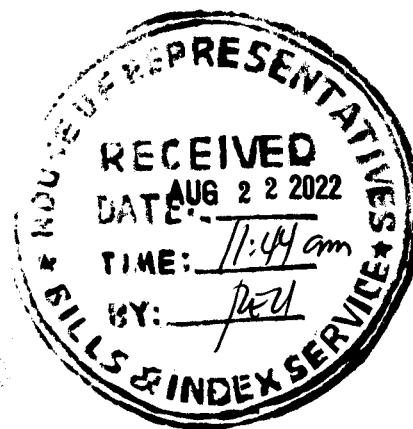


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3879



Introduced by Representative VINCENT FRANCO D. FRASCO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish a Heart Center of the Philippines - Visayas in the Municipality of Liloan in the Province of Cebu.

Section 11, Article XIII of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to the people at affordable cost.

Presidential Decree No. 673 (s. 1975) created the Philippine Heart Center, which aimed to benefit the people of the Philippines by further enhancing the noble undertaking of research in heart and allied diseases, and to render specialized medical services for the prevention and treatment of heart and allied diseases.

In his first State of the Nation Address, President Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos, Jr. emphasized that a stronger health care system and more health centers and hospitals are necessary. Therefore, specialty hospitals like the Heart Center should not only be available in the National Capital Region, but also in other areas of the country.

Data taken from the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), as compiled from the Department of Health (DOH), the Philippine Heart Association (PHA), government and private hospitals, and other healthcare facilities all over the country, indicate that ischaemic heart diseases were the leading causes of death from January to October 2021 with 110,332 cases or 18.3% of the total deaths in the country. This was a 28.0% increase from the 86,164 deaths or 16.9% of the total deaths in the country during the same period in 2020.

It is evident that there is a need to put up Heart Centers in the provinces in order to decentralize the services in the National Capital Region. With the increasing number of heart disease cases in the country, medical services should be made accessible and affordable to Filipinos nationwide, especially those living in the remote areas.

Liloan is a first class municipality in the province of Cebu, with a total land area of 5,210 hectares. According to the 2020 Philippine Census of Population, the population of Liloan is pegged at 153,197 persons residing in its 14 barangays. Liloan, then under the leadership of former town Mayor and now Department of Tourism Secretary, Atty. Maria

Christina Esperanza C. Frasco, won numerous national awards, such as Top Philippine Model Municipality, Education Hub Award, Retirement Haven Award and Wealth Center Award by The Manila Times. Liloan was also twice awarded the Most Competitive Municipality in Resilience/Most Resilient Municipality in the Philippines by the Department of Trade and Industry, and thrice awarded the highest audit rating and granted an “unqualified opinion” by the Commission on Audit (COA). Liloan is situated in the number one province of the Philippines, the Province of Cebu, Central Visayas Region, and is the gateway to the North of Cebu and a convenient access to the cities of Mandaue, Lapu-Lapu and Cebu and to the cities and towns from the West and South of Cebu.

At present, there is an increasing number of residents in the Visayas diagnosed with heart illnesses. It is thus imperative that specialized medical services should be provided for those with heart and other allied diseases in the Visayas area, especially the poor and less fortunate in life, without regard to race, creed, color or political belief.

The establishment and maintenance of the Heart Center of the Philippines – Visayas will give true meaning to the Constitutional policy of providing efficient and effective health care system that is responsive to the health needs and problems of the people.

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



VINCENT FRANCO D. FRASCO

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NINETEENTH CONGRESS
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HOUSE BILL NO. 3879

Introduced by Rep. Vincent Franco D. Frasco

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A HEART CENTER IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF LILOAN IN THE PROVINCE OF CEBU, TO BE KNOWN AS
THE HEART CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES – VISAYAS, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

Section 1. Creation of the Philippine Heart Center – Visayas; Board of Trustees. There is hereby created a trust, for the benefit primarily of the Filipino people, under the name and style of "Philippine Heart Center – Visayas" hereinafter referred to as the Philippine Heart Center – Visayas.

The Philippine Heart Center – Visayas 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 Board of Trustees shall serve for a period of three (3) years and until their successors shall have been appointed and qualified. 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 Heart Center – Visayas shall elect a Chairman from among themselves, who shall be presiding officer of the Board of Trustees.

The Director of the Philippine Heart Center – Visayas shall serve as Vice-Chairman of the Board. The Director shall act as the chief executive officer of the Philippine Heart Center – Visayas, with authority, among others, to appoint, remove, and fix the compensation of the personnel thereof, subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees.

Four (4) members of the Board of Trustees shall constitute a quorum transact business and any decision of such four members on any matter duly presented to the Board of Trustees shall constitute a valid and binding act of the Philippine Heart Center – Visayas.

Section 2. Government contributions. – The Government shall constitute the necessary land, building, equipment and facilities, to the Philippine Heart Center – Visayas, and shall pay

such obligations for real, personal and mixed properties arising from such undertaking under a deferred payment arrangement within 5 years, at a preferred rate of interest.

Section 3. Property of the Center. – The Property of the Philippine Heart Center – Visayas shall consist of such real, personal, mixed, and other type of property, now owned or reserve for, or may hereafter be given, donated, acquired, transferred or conveyed to, the Philippine Heart Center – Visayas 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 4. Purposes and objectives. – The purposes and objectives of the Philippine Heart Center – Visayas are:

1. To construct, establish, operate and maintain a heart center for the public welfare, including a specialized heart hospital;
2. To promote, encourage and engage in scientific research on the prevention of cardiovascular diseases and the care and/or treatment of heart patients and related activities, including sponsorship and conduct of relevant congresses, conventions, seminars, and conferences;
3. To stimulate and/or underwrite scientific researches on the biological, demographic, social, economic, eugenic, physiological aspects of cardio-vascular disorders and abnormalities and their control; and gather, compile, and publish the findings of such researches for public dissemination;
4. To facilitate and encourage the dissemination and exchange of ideas and information on the prevention, treatment and control of heart diseases, to arouse, enhance and develop public interest on heart consciousness or awareness, general health and physical fitness, especially on human cardio-vascular requirements and other relevant or related fields;
5. 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 cardiac services, and related activities;
6. To assist universities, hospitals and research institutions in their studies of cardiovascular anomalies, to encourage advanced training on matters of, or affecting the heart, and related fields and to support educational programs of value to general health;
7. To encourage the formation of other organization 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
8. To extend medical and cardiological services to the general public, to help prevent, relieve or alleviate the innumerable cardio-vascular afflictions and maladies of the people specially the poor and less fortunate in life, without regard to race, creed, color or political belief.

Section 5. Powers. – For the attainment and/or furtherance of the above purposes and objectives, the Philippine Heart Center – Visayas, as a body corporate, acting through its Board

of Trustees, shall have all the powers pertaining to a juridical person, and is therefore authorized, among other things:

1. 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;
2. To contract and be contracted with;
3. To mortgage, lease, sell, transfer, convey or otherwise dispose of its properties;
4. 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;
5. 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 Heart Center – Visayas;
6. To invite foreign heart specialists and similar experts in the various medical fields to train the personnel or trainees or residents of the Philippine Heart Center – Visayas;
7. To send the personnel of the Philippine Heart Center – Visayas 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 Heart Center – Visayas;
8. 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 Heart Center – Visayas; and
9. To do all such other acts and things as are or may be necessary or incidental for the accomplishment of the purposes and objectives of the Philippine Heart Center – Visayas.

Section 6. Assistance from government offices. – The Philippine Heart Center – Visayas 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.

All individuals, entities and institutions are hereby enjoined to render full assistance and cooperation to the Philippine Heart Center – Visayas in the accomplishment of its objectives and activities.

Section 7. Appropriations. – The Department of Health shall provide funding for the establishment and operation of the Heart Center of the Philippines – Visayas. The Secretary of Health shall include in the Department's subsidy program, support for the capital outlays of the said hospital.

Section 8. Separability Clause. – If any provision or part of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provision not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 9. Repealing Clause. – All other laws, decrees, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Section 10. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,