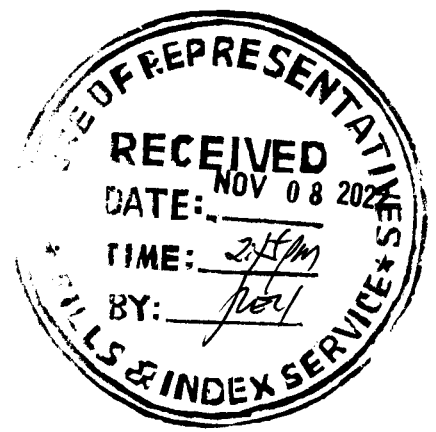


Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila
Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session
HOUSE BILL NO. 5931



Introduced by Rep. Anthony R.T. Golez Jr. MD, MBAH

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A major area of policy focus for Filipinos is social welfare. The Philippines has a high poverty rate that is attributed to low worker education, a lack of skilled work, living in a rural area, and the high dependency burden that the working-age population must shoulder. Due to the large percentage of young adults and children in the Philippines, there is a high dependency ratio, which means that older Filipinos often are not able to save for retirement because they may have young dependents. Older Filipinos may have to sacrifice their financial assets to care for younger family members. As such, there is a need for a more focused approach in geriatric health.

The creation of a center for geriatric health is needed because there are inadequate social security and institutional care available for older Filipinos. This representation seeks to create the Western Visayas Regional Center for Geriatric Health to address this matter in the Western Visayas Region.

It is important to highlight that our Constitution in Section 4, Article XV declares that it is the duty of the family to take care of its elderly members while the State may design programs of social security for them. This representation believes that the creation the Western Visayas Regional Center for Geriatric Health will concretize the said constitutional mandate.

The Western Visayas Regional Center for Geriatric Health will be located in Bacolod City and will be managed by the Corazon Locsin Montelibano Memorial Regional Medical Center. The proposed geriatric center will also be able to serve Filipinos in nearby provinces.

For the people of the Philippines, the passage of the proposed law is earnestly being sought.


Hon. Anthony R.T. Golez Jr. MD, MBAH
Malasakit at Bayanihan Partylist

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HOUSE BILL NO. 5931

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE WESTERN VISAYAS REGIONAL
CENTER FOR GERIATRIC HEALTH IN BACOLOD CITY,
PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL, AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippine Congress Assembled:

Section 1. *Short Title.* This Act shall be known as the “Western Visayas Regional Center for Geriatric Health Act of 2022.”

Section 2. *Creation of Western Visayas Regional Center for Geriatric Health.* The Western Visayas Regional Center for Geriatric Health is hereby created and to be located in the City of Bacolod. The Western Visayas Regional Center for Geriatric Center shall be managed by the Corazon Locsin Montelibano Memorial Regional Medical Center (CLMMRMC).

Section 3. *Purpose of Western Visayas Regional Center for Geriatric Health.* The Western Visayas Regional Center for Geriatric Health shall endeavor and focus to make available state-of-the-art geriatric treatment and detection facilities for the people of Western Visayas and nearby provinces.

Section 4. *Management of Western Visayas Regional Center for Geriatric Health.* The Medical Center Chief of CLMMRMC shall manage the operation of the center. The Medical Center Chief of CLMMRC shall also assign personnel who shall undergo training, continuous medical education, and refresher courses on geriatric health. he Medical Center Chief of CLMMRMC shall also submit a comprehensive development plan for the operations and budget of Western Visayas Regional Center for Geriatric Health.

Section 5. *Funding.* The amount of Five Hundred Million Pesos (P500,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated for the implementation of this Act, this budget shall be included in the 2024 General Appropriations Act under the Health Facilities Enhancement Program (HFEP) of the Department of Health.

Section 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* The Secretary of Health, in coordination with concerned local government officials and the Medical Center Chief of CLMMRC, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act within ninety (90) days from its effectivity.

Section 7. *Repealing Clause.* All other laws, acts, presidential decrees, executive orders, issuances, presidential proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which

are contrary to and inconsistent with any provision of this Act, are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Section 8. *Separability Clause.* If any portion or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect

Section 9. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,