

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH (19th) CONGRESS
1st Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **7233**



Introduced by **Hon. WILTER YAP PALMA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish a general hospital in the Municipality of Imelda, Province of Zamboanga Sibugay to be known as the Imelda General Hospital. This is in pursuant to the Constitutional mandate of the State to protect and promote the right to health of every citizen as well as make essential goods, social services and most importantly, access to affordable healthcare for all.

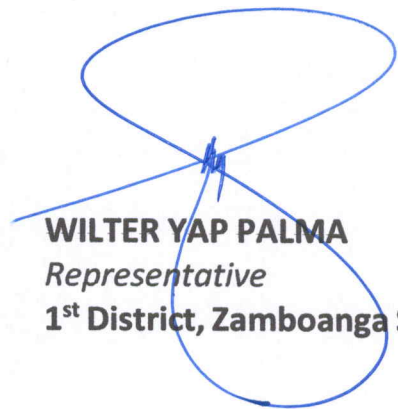
In fact, Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Constitution provides: "The State shall protect and promote the right to health consciousness among them". Moreover, Article XIII, Section 11, states that "The state shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the underdeveloped, sick, elderly, disabled, women and children. The State shall endeavor to provide free medical care to paupers."

It is a harsh reality that the Province of Zamboanga Sibugay has the inadequate amount of healthcare facilities and medical programs, and the advent of the COVID-19 Pandemic has even further greatly accosted the capability of our facilities to provide accessible and sufficient medical services to the Sibugaynons. As such, the rapid rise of patients within the province together with the lack of resources for the procurement of diagnostic tools, competent personnel, and bed capacities have pushed the Province to its absolute limit. In extreme cases, patients as well as those who are in desperate need of immediate medical attention have

no choice but to endure dreadful travel conditions to other nearby facilities while suffering from intense pain and in extreme cases, death.

As such, it is evident that there is a pressing need to strengthen our health care system in order to align with the provisions of the Universal Healthcare Law. Acknowledging so, the establishment of the Imelda General Hospital is vital towards achieving a much more refined and self-reliant health care system within Zamboanga Sibugay. By its creation, the aforementioned hospital would in turn aid the decongestion of the various health care facilities in the province as patients within the geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas would finally have another available, reachable, and affordable healthcare institution that they could run to.

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



WILTER YAP PALMA
Representative
1st District, Zamboanga Sibugay

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Philippines

NINETEENTH (19th) CONGRESS
First Regular Session

• 00000 **HOUSE BILL NO. 7233**

Introduced by **HON. WILTER YAP PALMA**

AN ACT

**ESTABLISHING A GENERAL HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF IMELDA,
PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY TO BE KNOWN AS THE IMELDA GENERAL
HOSPITAL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1 **SECTION 1. *Establishment of the Imelda General Hospital.*** - There shall be
2 established, under the direct control and supervision of the Department of Health
3 (DOH), a general hospital in the Municipality of Imelda, Province of Zamboanga
4 Sibugay to be known as the Imelda General Hospital.

5 **SECTION 2. *Appropriations.*** – The Secretary of Health shall immediately
6 include in the Department's program the amount needed to carry out the
7 provisions of this Act. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the operation
8 and maintenance of the herein hospital shall be included in the annual General
9 Appropriations Act.

10 **SECTION 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** - Within three (3) months
11 following the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Health shall promulgate the
12 necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

13 **SECTION 4. *Separability Clause.*** - If any portion or provision of this Act is
14 declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected
15 thereby shall remain in force and effect.

16 **SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause*** – All laws, executive orders, decrees, issuances,
17 rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act
18 are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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

21 Approved,
22
23