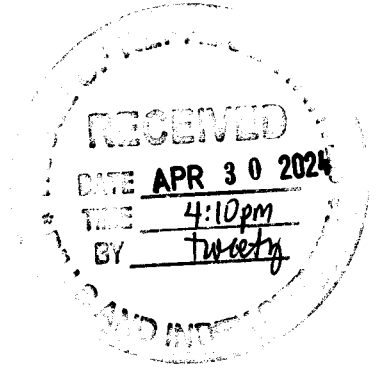


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 10311



Introduced by Representative Gabriel H. Bordado, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Bicol Medical Center is a vital part of the Bicolano community. It is the cornerstone of accessible, affordable, and quality medical services and healthcare, serving countless patients not only in Naga City where it is located but also in the neighboring cities and municipalities of the entire Bicol Region.

For years, the Bicol Medical Center struggled to serve the constant barrage of patients that far exceeded its bed capacity and facilities. And although the hospital continued to extend specialized medical service to many indigent Bicolano patients, this difficulty to meet the demand for useable patient beds had impacted the ability of its medical professionals to provide timely and efficient medical care.

However, through Republic Act no. 11478 enacted in 2020, the BMC's bed capacity was increased from five hundred (500) beds to one thousand (1,000) beds. This measure has been able to extend accessible and affordable medical care to more patients. Likewise, it has provided a much-needed relief to an overcrowded hospital and an overworked staff. However, as the region's population continues to grow, age, and expand, the demand for useable hospital beds is on a constant rise. It is, therefore, a priority to ensure that quality medical services would not suffer or be inaccessible to patients because of overcrowding and the unavailability of beds.

This bill seeks to increase the bed capacity of the Bicol Medical Center from one thousand (1,000) beds to one thousand five hundred (1,500) beds, upgrading its service facilities and professional healthcare services, and authorizing the increase of its medical workforce.

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


GABRIEL H. BORDADO, JR.
3rd District, CAMARINES SUR

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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 10311

Introduced by Representative Gabriel H. Bordado, Jr.

AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE BICOL MEDICAL CENTER FROM ONE THOUSAND (1000) BEDS TO ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED (1500) BEDS, UPGRADING ITS SERVICES FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS MEDICAL WORKFORCE COMPLEMENT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11478, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. *Increase in Bed Capacity.* – The authorized bed capacity of the Bicol Medical Center (BMC) is hereby increased from one thousand (1000) to one thousand five hundred (1500) beds. The Secretary of Health shall implement the increase in bed capacity of the BMC consistent with the development plan of the hospital.

SEC. 2. *Upgrade of Service Facilities.* – The existing hospital facilities and professional health care services of the BMC are also hereby upgraded and increased to conform with and be commensurate to the bed capacity increase as provided for in Section 1 hereof.

SEC. 3. *Increase in Personnel.* - Upon consultation with the management of the BMC, the Secretary of Health shall, in coordination with the Secretary of Budget and Management and the Chairperson of the Civil Service Commission, determine the additional plantilla positions to be created and filled up in the workforce of the BMC.

SEC. 4. *Hospital Development Plan.* – The Chief of the BMC shall develop a hospital development plan to be submitted to the Department of Health (DOH) to reflect the development goals of the hospital, consistent with the increase in bed capacity and service capability as provided in Sections 1 and 2 hereof. Request for the staffing requirements, capital outlay investments and budgetary needs for operations shall be based on the hospital development plan.

SEC. 5. *Appropriation.* – The Secretary of Health shall immediately include in the Department's programs the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 6. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 7. *Repealing Clause.* – Republic Act No. 11478, otherwise known as “An Act Increasing the Bed Capacity of the Bicol Medical Center from Five Hundred (500) Beds to One Thousand (1000) Beds, Upgrading its Service Facilities and Professional Health Care Services, Authorizing the Increase of its Medical Workforce Complement, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8053, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”, is hereby amended accordingly. All laws, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 8. *Effectivity* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,