

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10953



Introduced by **HON. MIGUEL LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE** and
HON. LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The province of Camarines Sur is composed of 35 municipalities and two cities and is considered the largest province in the Bicol Region both by land area and population. According to the 2020 census of the Philippine Statistics Authority, the province's population is 2,068,244.¹

Indeed, the growing population of the province entails the need for sufficient and responsive government support services to cater to the basic needs of the people including food, housing, and healthcare. In providing medical and health services, the former provincial hospital in Naga City now known as the Bicol Medical Center (BMC), has extended its services to cater to the healthcare needs of the entire region with over six million residents.² Despite the passage of the Republic Act 11478 in July 2020, which increased BMC's bed capacity from 500 to 1000³, there is still a gap in providing healthcare services specifically those related to obstetrics, gynecology, and pediatric concerns, especially in Rinconada.

It is with these premises that establishing a women's and children's hospital is imperative. In addition, the strategic location of Nabua in the Rinconada district makes it an ideal venue to cater to the healthcare needs of its neighboring municipalities.

¹ <https://psa.gov.ph/classification/psgc/citimuni/0501700000>

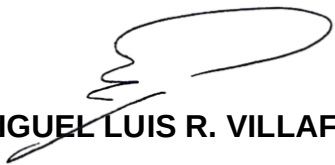
² <https://psa.gov.ph/content/highlights-region-v-bicol-region-population-2020-census-population-and-housing-2020-cph>

³ <https://bmc.doh.gov.ph/transparency-seal/bicol-medical-center-history>

Article 25 of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights states that everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and his family; and motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance.⁴

This principle is also clearly enshrined in Article XIII, Section 11 of the 1987 Constitution which declares, “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 the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the underprivileged sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children.”⁵

The immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



MIGUEL LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE



LUIS RAYMUND F. VILLAFUERTE JR.

⁴ <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>

⁵ <https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/constitutions/1987-constitution/>

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Introduced by **HON. MIGUEL LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE** and
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**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A WOMEN'S AND
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NABUA IN THE PROVINCE
OF CAMARINES SUR, TO BE KNOWN AS THE RINCONADA WOMEN'S AND
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established under the direct supervision of the Provincial Government of Camarines Sur, a women's and children's hospital in the Municipality of Nabua in the Province of Camarines Sur, to be known as the Rinconada Women's and Children's Hospital. It shall be authorized to operate a two hundred (200) bed capacity hospital dedicated to women's and children's health requirements.

SECTION 2. The hospital shall specialize on the care of women and children and shall focus on women and children health care, prenatal testing, obstetrics and gynecological services, pediatrics care, lactation programs, nutrition services, neonatal care, immunization services, postpartum depression support, education classes for parenting, and women's and children's health awareness.

SECTION 3. The province shall develop a hospital development plan to reflect the development goals of the hospital including its bed capacity and service capability. Request for the staffing requirements, capital outlay investments, and budgetary needs for operations shall be based on the hospital development plan.

SECTION 4. The Provincial Government of Camarines Sur shall provide funding for the establishment and operation of the Rinconada Women's and Children's Hospital. The Secretary of Health shall include in the Department's subsidy program, support for the capital outlays of the said hospital.

SECTION 5. If any provisions or part of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 6. 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 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,