



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



TWENTIETH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 174

Introduced by Representative MARLESA “DOC MARLY” HOFER-HASIM

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Access to quality healthcare is a fundamental right of every Filipino, as enshrined in Article XIII, Section 11 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution, which 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 all the people at affordable cost.”

Further reinforcing this constitutional mandate is Republic Act No. 11223, or the Universal Health Care Act of 2018, which declares the policy of the State to:

“Adopt a health care model that provides all Filipinos access to a comprehensive set of quality and cost-effective, promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative, and palliative health services without causing financial hardship, and prioritizes the needs of the population who cannot afford such services.” (Sec. 2(b), R.A. No. 11223)

In line with these policy mandates, this legislative measure seeks to establish a district hospital under the direct supervision of the Department of Health (DOH) in the Municipality of Ipil, situated in the Second District of the Province of Zamboanga Sibugay.

Based on the 2020 Census, the Second District of Zamboanga Sibugay has a population of 669,840,¹ reflecting a continued increase in population density and the growing demand for accessible and quality healthcare services.

The Second District of Zamboanga Sibugay faces persistent challenges in meeting the healthcare needs of its constituents due to the limited capacity of existing health facilities. The Municipality of Ipil, being the provincial capital and administrative center, is strategically positioned to host a fully equipped district hospital that will not only serve its local residents but

¹ <https://nsa.gov.ph/classification/nsec/citimuni/0908300000>

also provide medical care to neighboring municipalities such as Kabasalan, Naga, Roseller Lim, Siay, Titay, and Tungawan.

As a medical doctor, it has long been my personal and professional dream to establish a hospital in my district, a facility that can provide quality, accessible, and compassionate medical care to every resident, especially those in the farthest and poorest communities. This vision stems from years of firsthand experience witnessing the difficulties patients face in accessing timely and adequate healthcare.

The establishment of the Zamboanga Sibugay District Hospital will significantly improve the delivery of public health services in the province, reduce healthcare disparities, and uphold the constitutional right of every citizen to accessible, affordable, and quality medical care.

In the interest of health, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



MARLESA "DOC MARLY" HOFER-HASIM
Representative, 2nd District of Zamboanga Sibugay



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AN ACT

**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION OF A DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF IPIL, PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY, TO BE KNOWN
AS THE ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY DISTRICT 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.*** There shall be established, under the direct supervision and
2 control of the Department of Health (DOH), a hospital in the Municipality of Ipil, located in the
3 Second District of the Province of Zamboanga Sibugay, to be known as the Zamboanga Sibugay
4 District Hospital.

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6 **SECTION 2. *Appropriations.*** The Department of Health (DOH) shall provide funding
7 for the establishment and operation of the said hospital in the Municipality of Ipil, located in the
8 Second District of the Province of Zamboanga Sibugay. The Secretary of Health shall include in
9 the Department's budget the appropriate capital outlay for the hospital construction and equipment
10 requirements, and adequate operating funds of the facility thereafter.

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SECTION 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* Within six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Health (DOH) shall issue the corresponding Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) for the effective implementation of this Act.

SECTION 4. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,