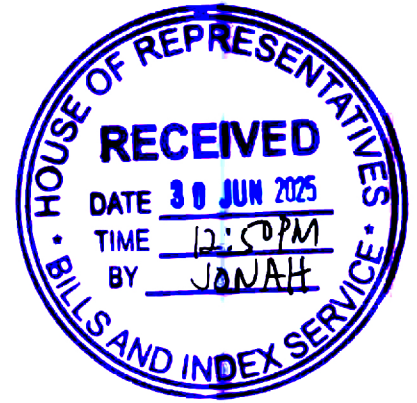


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 230

Introduced by **REPRESENTATIVE AUDREY KAY T. ZUBIRI**

AN ACT
UPGRADING THE BUKIDNON PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MARAMAG, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON INTO A TERTIARY LEVEL III GENERAL HOSPITAL TO BE KNOWN AS THE BPH-MARAMAG, UNDER THE CONTROL, SUPERVISION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH) AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 11, Article XIII of the 1987 Constitution states that “the State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health and development that shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all people at all cost.” However, access to quality healthcare remains one of the most pressing needs in the Province of Bukidnon, particularly in geographically isolated and underserved municipalities in the Region.

The Bukidnon Provincial Hospital in Maramag (BPH-Maramag) currently operates as a secondary-level healthcare facility, offering limited medical services and handling patient referrals from 36 different locations including neighboring provinces in the Region such as Agusan Del Norte, Lanao Del Norte, Davao De Oro, and Surigao del Sur.

Through the years, the number of patients particularly the poor and the underprivileged, who sought the services to the provincial hospital had increased significantly. BPH-Maramag, strategically located in the southern part of Bukidnon, serves as a vital access point for health services for surrounding municipalities and provinces in the Region providing health services to more than 6,000 patients monthly. On average, its monthly bed occupancy rate is at 175% exceeding its current 130-bed capacity by almost double.

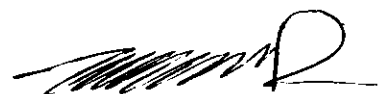
With the nearest tertiary hospital, Northern Mindanao Medical Center (NMMC), located in Cagayan de Oro City or almost four (4) hours away from Maramag, many poor families are left without adequate access to healthcare due to the prohibitive cost and distance of travel. Despite the increasing need for health services in the Region, there remains no accessible tertiary hospital in the immediate area capable of offering comprehensive services such as specialized surgeries, intensive care, neonatal support, and advanced diagnostic capabilities.

Thus, this proposed measure seeks to upgrade the Bukidnon Provincial Hospital - Maramag into a Level III Tertiary General Hospital allowing BPH-Maramag provide better health care services in the region.

Elevating BPH-Maramag to a tertiary level facility will improve access to quality healthcare, reduce patient congestion in other hospitals, and support the goal of universal health care as mandated by Republic Act No. 11223 or the “*Universal Health Care Act*”.

Ultimately, this measure seeks to empower local healthcare systems, ensure timely and equitable medical care for Bukidnon’s rural and neighboring communities, and strengthen the public health infrastructure in Mindanao.

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



AUDREY KAY T. ZUBIRI
Representative, 3rd District of Bukidnon

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

1 **SECTION 1.** The Bukidnon Provincial Hospital in the Municipality of Maramag,
2 Province of Bukidnon is hereby upgraded into a tertiary level III General Hospital to be
3 known as the Bukidnon Provincial Hospital-Maramag under the direct control, supervision,
4 and management of the Department of Health (DOH).

5

6 The increase in the bed capacity of the Bukidnon Provincial Hospital in the Municipality
7 of Maramag, Province of Bukidnon shall be in accordance with the hospital development
8 plan.

9

10 **SEC. 2.** The existing professional health care services and facilities are also hereby
11 upgraded to conform with and be commensurate to the bed capacity increase as provided in
12 Section 1 hereof.

13

14 **SEC. 3.** The DOH, in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management
15 (DBM) and the Civil Service Commission (CSC), and in consultation with the management

of the hospital, shall determine the additional plantilla positions to be created and filled up in the workforce of the said hospital.

SEC. 4. The chief of the hospital shall develop a hospital development plan to be submitted to the DOH to reflect the development goals of the hospital, consistent with the increase in the bed capacity and service capability. Request for the staffing requirements, capital outlay investments and budgetary needs for the operations shall be based on the hospital development plan.

SEC. 5. The Secretary of Health shall 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. Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Health shall prepare the implementing rules and regulations upon consultation with the Provincial Government of Bukidnon, the Representative of the District, where the hospital is located, and other stakeholders and shall be implemented consistent with the hospital development plan.

SEC. 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers general circulation.

Approved,