

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

20<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 382



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Introduced by. REP. JUAN CARLOS "ARJO" C. ATAYDE

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**AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF EAST AVENUE MEDICAL CENTER IN QUEZON CITY FROM ONE THOUSAND (1,000) TO ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED (1,500) BEDS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

The East Avenue Medical Center (EAMC), located in Quezon City, is a vital government-run tertiary hospital that serves as one of the key health institutions in the National Capital Region.<sup>1</sup> It provides essential medical services, particularly to indigent and underserved populations, and plays a critical role in responding to both day-to-day healthcare demands and public health emergencies.

In 1997, Republic Act No. 8345 increased the hospital's authorized bed capacity from 350 to 600 beds.<sup>2</sup> In response to growing healthcare needs, a further legislative measure was enacted in 2021, through Republic Act No. 11561, which officially increased EAMC's authorized capacity to 1,000 beds.<sup>3</sup> This expansion reflected the hospital's evolving role in the public health system, especially in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

However, while RA 11561 adjusted the legal limit to match operational realities, it has now become necessary to once again **revisit and expand the hospital's official bed capacity**. Population growth, urbanization, and the increasing strain on public health services—particularly in the NCR—underscore the need for further investment in tertiary care infrastructure. Reports and hospital records indicate that **actual occupancy rates at EAMC regularly push the limits of its existing capacity**, placing a strain on facilities and medical personnel.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Department of Health, Health Facility Development Bureau, HFDB Profile of EAMC &

<sup>2</sup> Republic Act No. 8345 (1997), "An Act Increasing the Bed Capacity of East Avenue Medical Center from 350 to 600 Beds and Appropriating Funds Therefor."

<sup>3</sup> Republic Act No. 11561 (2021), "An Act Increasing the Bed Capacity of the East Avenue Medical Center from 600 to 1,000 Beds and Appropriating Funds Therefor."

<sup>4</sup> GMA News. (2024, November 9). *EAMC emergency room and ICU overwhelmed amid patient surge*. Retrieved from <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news>

It has now been nearly four years since the last legislative action to support EAMC, and the **hospital's continued expansion and growing demand for services make it imperative to further upgrade its capacity from 1,000 to 1,500 beds.** Such an increase will allow for improved patient care, enhanced emergency response capability, and strengthened delivery of public health services. In line with this, the proposed measure also seeks to authorize the corresponding increase in medical personnel, resources, and funding support necessary to sustain this growth.

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

  
**REP. JUAN CARLOS "ARJO" ATAYDE**

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

3 **SECTION 1. Increase in Bed Capacity.** – The authorized bed capacity of the East  
4 Avenue Medical Center (EAMC) in Quezon City is hereby increased from **one thousand**  
5 **(1,000) to one thousand five hundred (1,500) beds.**

6 **SECTION 2. Implementation.** – The Department of Health (DOH) shall, in  
7 coordination with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), the East Avenue  
8 Medical Center, and other concerned agencies, take the necessary steps to implement the  
9 increase in bed capacity, including the upgrading of its facilities, hiring of additional personnel,  
10 and procurement of necessary equipment and supplies.

11 **SECTION 3. Appropriations.** – The amount necessary to implement the provisions  
12 of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the East Avenue  
13 Medical Center. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for its continued implementation  
14 shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

15 **SECTION 4. Separability Clause.** – If any provision of this Act is declared  
16 unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected shall continue to be in full  
17 force and effect.

18 **SECTION 5. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and  
19 regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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

22 Approved,