

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 557



Introduced by Representative **MARLYN L. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

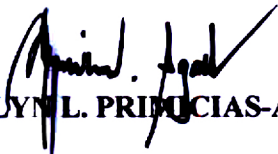
This bill seeks to establish a specialty hospital for teachers and their dependents for their upkeep and health benefits.

The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill consciousness among them (Section 15, Article II, 1987 Constitution). To this end, the State shall enact measures that shall protect and ensure primary health care to its people particularly those exposed to health hazards like our teachers. 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 (Section 11, Article XIII, 1987 Constitution).

It is also well recognized that among those exerting unaccounted efforts and sacrifices in making significant contributions to our community are our teachers. Notwithstanding the tedious work and the health hazards attendant to the working environment of our teachers, their commitment to the teaching profession has remained steadfast and resolute. In the course of the performance of their duties however, work related illnesses such as pharyngitis, anemia, hypertension, hyperacidity, lung disease and other health hazards set in. With the meager income that they receive, which cannot adequately compensate the day to day sacrifices of our teachers, not to mention the lack of immediate health care that will cater to their needs, there is a need to zero-in and focus on the health welfare of our teachers and their dependents. Indubitably, our country's development is anchored on educated citizenry without which we cannot move on and survive as a country.

This bill will thus establish a special hospital to our teachers and their dependents. With this bill, teachers' aspirations and health security will be secured and enhanced.

Hence, this earnest request for the immediate passage of this bill.


MARLYN L. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A HOSPITAL FOR TEACHERS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **SECTION 1. Title.** — This Act shall be known as the “Philippine
2 Teachers' Hospital Act.”

3 **SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** — It is the policy of the State
4 to adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health
5 development, which shall endeavor to make essential health
6 and other social services available to all people at affordable
7 cost. Towards this end, the State shall protect the interest
8 and promote the well-being of Filipino teachers, including their
9 families and dependents through the provision of social welfare
10 services.

11 **SECTION 3. Creation of Special Hospital and Special Wards.** —
12 To carry-out the above policy, a special hospital for teachers,
13 to be named the PHILIPPINE TEACHERS' HOSPITAL, is hereby
14 established in the National Capital Region. Such hospital shall
15 be the primary medical facility for the hospitalization and medical
16 care of teachers and their dependents.

17 Each regional hospital shall establish a teachers' ward,
18 with an initial capacity of at least one hundred (100) beds, which
19 will provide hospitalization and medical care to teachers and

20 their dependents residing outside the National Capital Region

21 For purpose of this Act, “teachers” shall include, but not
22 limited to the following

- 23 a) All persons engaged in the classroom teaching of any subject,
24 including practical/vocational arts, at the day care,
25 pre-school, elementary, secondary, and post-secondary levels
26 of instruction in all public and private educational
27 institutions;
- 28 b) Individuals performing guidance and counselling in all
29 public and private institutions;
- 30 c) All persons who provide instructional supervision in all
31 public and private educational institutions;
- 32 d) All persons employed as school administrative support
33 employees;
- 34 e) School physicians, school dentist, and school nurses;
35 Officials and employees of the Department of Education (DepEd)
36 and the Commission on higher Education (CHED); and
- 37 f) Graduates of education who have passed the government examination
38 for teachers, although not actually employed as such.

39 “Dependents” shall refer to the following:

- 40 (a) the legitimate spouse dependent for support upon the teacher
41 (b) the legitimate, illegitimate, or legally adopted children, chiefly
42 dependent upon and living with the teacher if such child is
43 not more than twenty one (21) years of age, unmarried and not
44 gainfully employed or is over the age of majority but
45 incapacitated and incapable of self-support due to mental
46 or physical defect; and
47 (c) the parents dependent upon the member for support

48 **SECTION 4. Objectives.** To ensure the availability
49 accessibility and affordability of quality health care, the
50 PHILIPPINE TEACHERS’ HOSPITAL shall:

- 51 a) Provide for a comprehensive health care services to all and their
52 legal dependents;

- 53 b) Complement the existing package of services under the National
54 Health Insurance Program so as to include preventive, diagnostic,
55 curative and rehabilitative programs;
56 c) Conduct medical examination to ensure the physical and mental
57 capability of all teacher applicants; and
58 d) Set-up a system that will effectively monitor the condition of
59 patients and to generate relevant information/data in aid of policy
60 formulation.

61 **SECTION 5.** Administration Upon effectivity of this Act, the
62 PHILIPPINE TEACHERS' HOSPITALS shall be administered by a
63 Board of Directors consisting of;

- 64 a) The Secretary of the Department of Education as *ex-officio* Chairman
65 b) The Secretary of the Department of Health as *ex-officio* Vice Chairman
66 c) The Chairman of the Commission on Higher Education as *ex-officio*
67 member
68 d) The Director General of Technical Education and Skills Development
69 Authority as *ex-officio* member
70 e) The Secretary of the Department of Social Welfare and Development
71 as *ex-officio* member
72 f) Three representative from the teachers sector: one (1) from Luzon,
73 one (1) from Visayas, one (1) from Mindanao as Members.
74 The three (3) representatives from the teachers sectors shall be
75 appointed by the President of the Philippines from list of nominees prepared
76 by the *ex-officio* Chairman to serve for a term of three (3) years
77 without reappointment.

78 **SECTION 6.** *Responsibility and Popery.* — The Board of
79 Directors of the PHILIPPINE TEACHERS' HOSPITAL shall have
80 the following responsibilities and powers:

- 81 a) To formulate and implement measures and programs to
82 attain the objectives and purposes of the PHILIPPINE TEACHERS'
83 HOSPITAL as enunciated in Section 4 of this Act;
84 b) To organize the structure of the PHILIPPINE TEACHERS'

85 HOSPITAL in accordance with a staffing pattern prepared
86 by it and approved by the Department of Budget and
87 Management; to appoint the officials and employees of the
88 Hospital, subject to civil service laws, rules and regulations;
89 to prescribe their duties and fix their compensation subject to
97 the provisions of Republic Act No. 6758;
98 c) To enter into agreements and contracts in connection
99 with its establishment, maintenance, operations and objectives;
100 d) To issue rules and regulations to carry out the objectives
101 and purposes of this Act; and
102 e) To perform such other duties and functions as may be provided
103 by law.

104 **SECTION 7. Appropriation.** — An amount of Five Hundred Million
105 Pesos (P500,000,000.00) shall be appropriated for the Establishment and
106 Initial operations of the PHILIPPINE TEACHERS' HOSPITAL which shall
107 be sourced out from the savings of the Executive Branch of the government
108 and other possible sources that may be determined by the Office of the
109 President. Subsequent funds needed shall be included in the annual General
110 Appropriations Act.

111 **SECTION 8. *Geparability Clauye.*** — If any provision of this Act is
112 declared unconstitutional or invalid, other sections or parts hereof not affected
113 thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

114 **SECTION 9. *Repealing Clause.*** — All laws, decrees, executive orders,
115 rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provision of this
116 Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

117 **SECTION 10. *Effectively.*** — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
118 after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.
119 Approved,