

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1227



Introduced by **REP. JEFFERSON F. KHONGHUN**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article XIII, Section 11 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution mandates the State to adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development, ensuring access to essential goods, health, and other social services at an affordable cost. It emphasizes prioritizing the needs of the underprivileged, sick, elderly, persons with disabilities, women, and children, along with efforts to provide free medical care.

In accordance with this constitutional directive and aligned with Republic Act No. 11223, or the Universal Health Care Act, this bill proposes the establishment of the *Subic General Hospital*, a Level III General Hospital under the full administrative and technical supervision of the Department of Health (DOH). This initiative seeks to reinforce the State's commitment to delivering equitable, accessible, and quality healthcare services by addressing longstanding gaps in Zambales' health system.

Subic—with a population of 111,912 as of the 2020 census and the most populous municipality in Zambales—remains without a government hospital. The burden of infectious and non-communicable diseases continues to rise across the province, underscoring the need for modern medical infrastructure and specialized services. The proposed hospital in Barangay Asinan Proper will serve as a strategic facility capable of delivering advanced diagnostic, therapeutic, and surgical care to Subic residents and beyond.

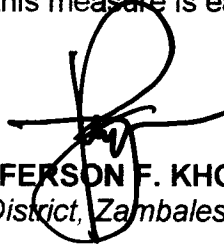
Equally important, the hospital will significantly benefit Olongapo City—a highly urbanized neighboring locality with over 260,000 residents—whose only public healthcare institution, the James L. Gordon Memorial Hospital, is increasingly overburdened. According to PhilHealth data, the Olongapo Local Health Insurance Office caters to a catchment population of approximately 566,756 across the city and five adjacent municipalities, reflecting the pressure on existing medical facilities.

The impact of this measure, however, extends beyond Subic and Olongapo. It promises to strengthen the broader health network of Zambales province by enhancing referral systems, distributing healthcare load more equitably, and improving access to tertiary services for underserved municipalities such as San Antonio,

Castillejos, and San Marcelino. In effect, the Subic General Hospital will function as a key node in realizing provincial health resilience.

Furthermore, the facility is poised to contribute to socio-economic growth by generating employment for healthcare professionals and ancillary personnel, while stimulating local economic activity tied to health-related services and industries. It will serve not only as a center of healing but also as a driver of inclusive development for the province.

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



JEFFERSON F. KHONGHUN
1st District, Zambales

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SUBIC, PROVINCE OF ZAMBALES,
A GENERAL HOSPITAL TO BE KNOWN AS THE SUBIC GENERAL 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 in the Municipality of Subic, Province of Zambales, a level 3 grade hospital to be known as Subic General Hospital, which shall be under the direct control and supervision of the Department of Health (DOH).

Sec. 2. Any future increase in bed capacity, healthcare facilities, service capability, and human resource complement shall be based on the hospital development plan which shall be prepared by the DOH.

Sec. 3. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be charged against the appropriations authorized for the purpose under the First Year General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the operation and maintenance of the hospital shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Sec. 4. If any provision or part of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Sec. 5. All laws, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Sec. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,