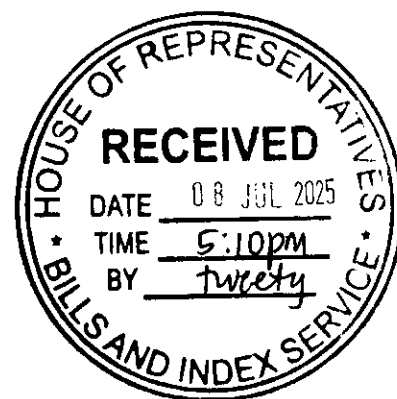




Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **1600**



Introduced by Ako Bicol Partylist Representative Alfredo A. Garbin Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to rename the Bicol Regional Hospital and Medical Center (BRHMC) to Southern Luzon Medical Center, increase its bed capacity from eight hundred (800) to one thousand five hundred (1,500) beds, upgrade its professional healthcare services and facilities, and authorize the increase of its medical personnel.

Section 11, Article XIII of the 1987 Constitution on Health, provides:

"SEC. 11. 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. There shall be priority for the needs of the underprivileged sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children. The State shall endeavor to provide free medical and care to paupers."

BRHMC is the cornerstone of medical provision in the Bicol Region. Geographically located in the Province of Albay, it was assigned by the Department of Health as the heart, lung, kidney, and cancer center of the provinces of Albay, Sorsogon, Masbate, Camarines Sur, Catanduanes, and nearby provinces.

The BRHMC is a level-3 accredited general and trauma hospital with an authorized bed capacity of eight hundred (800). The proposed increase in its bed capacity from eight hundred (800) to one thousand five hundred (1,500) beds is a proactive response to the growing healthcare needs of the region. Population growth, advances in medical technology, and evolving healthcare demands necessitate a larger capacity to ensure timely access to quality healthcare services. By increasing its bed capacity, the BRHMC may accommodate more patients and still provide efficient comprehensive care across the region.

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



ALFREDO A. GARBIN JR.
Representative
Ako Bicol Partylist

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1600

Introduced by Ako Bicol Partylist Representative Alfredo A. Garbin Jr.

AN ACT

RENAMING THE BICOL REGIONAL HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTER (BRHMC) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF DARAGA, PROVINCE OF ALBAY INTO SOUTHERN LUZON MEDICAL CENTER, INCREASING ITS BED CAPACITY FROM EIGHT HUNDRED (800) TO ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED (1,500) BEDS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. The Bicol Regional Hospital and Medical Center (BRHMC) located in the Municipality of Daraga, Province of Albay is renamed Southern Luzon Medical Center.

SEC. 2. The bed capacity of the Southern Luzon Medical Center shall be increased from eight hundred (800) to one thousand five hundred (1,500) beds. Any future increase in bed capacity shall be consistent with the hospital development plan which shall be prepared by the Department of Health.

SEC. 3. The existing professional healthcare services and facilities of the Southern Luzon Medical Center are also upgraded to conform with and be commensurate to the increase in its authorized bed capacity as provided for in Section 2 of this Act.

SEC. 4. The existing workforce of the Southern Luzon Medical Center, which includes doctors, nurses, and support personnel, shall also be increased correspondingly. The Secretary of Health shall, after consultation with the Chief of the Southern Luzon Medical Center, and in coordination with the Secretary of Budget and Management and

1 the Commissioner of the Civil Service Commission, determine the additional new
2 positions to be created and filled up.

3 SEC. 5. The Secretary of Health shall immediately include in the Department's
4 program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the
5 annual General Appropriations Act.

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

8 Approved,