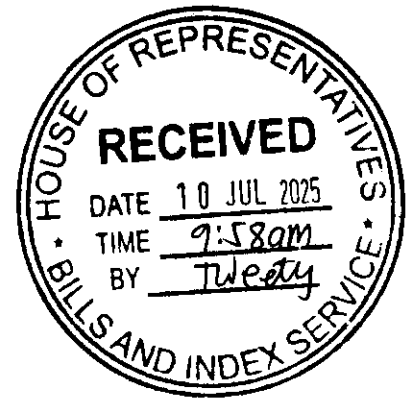


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1733



Introduced by **Representative Ryan S. Recto**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This legislative measure seeks to create one Regional Kidney and Transplant Institute in each of the administrative regions in the country. In this way, equal access and privilege is extended to all Filipinos, regardless of their geographical location.

The Department of Health (DOH) recognizes chronic kidney disease (CKD) as a significant public health concern, with Chronic kidney Disease (CKD) being among the top 10 leading causes of death and disability in the country. The Philippine Renal Disease Registry of the DOH also reported, as of March 2025, that hypertensive nephrosclerosis accounted for 33.07% of kidney disease cases nationwide, followed by diabetic nephropathy at 30.04% and chronic glomerulonephritis at 12.20%. NKTi also noted a concerning rise in pediatric CKD cases, from 144 in 2023 to 301 in 2024.

As CKD develops over time, it often progresses to end-stage renal disease (ESRD) or kidney failure. ESRD is a life-threatening condition that requires rigorous and continuous medical intervention and life-sustaining treatments such as hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis, sometimes, it necessitates kidney transplantation. In fact, the National Kidney and Transplant Institute (NKTi) revealed in a report that the number of individuals undergoing dialysis treatment in the Philippines surged to 64,845 in 2024, marking a substantial 22% rise from 53,296 patients in 2023.

As specialized treatment for kidney disease, particularly for end-stage patients, is highly resource-intensive and centralized in Metro Manila, it creates regional disparities in the distribution of healthcare across the country. Patients whose homes are located in cities outside the National Capital Region (NCR) face immense logistical, financial and emotional burdens to access treatments such as dialysis and kidney transplants. The costs associated with travel, accommodation and prolonged stays can substantially add to already high medical expenses.

With this in mind, it is therefore imperative that we directly address such inequities by establishing a Regional Kidney and Transplant Institute in each administrative region. In this way, we can bring high-quality kidney care, including crucial dialysis and transplant capabilities, closer to the Filipino people.

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


Ryan S. Recto
Representative
6th District, Batangas

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TWENTIETH CONGRESS
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HOUSE BILL NO. 1733

Introduced by **Representative Ryan S. Recto**

AN ACT
CREATING ONE REGIONAL KIDNEY AND TRANSPLANT INSTITUTE (RKTi) IN
EACH OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE REGIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES, PROVIDING
FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the "Regional Kidney and Transplant Institute (RKTi) Act".

Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is hereby declared as the policy of the State to secure the well-being of its people by providing them with specialized health services and address the increasing incidence of deadly diseases like kidney illness in the country. It is also the policy of the State to take the initiative in medical and scientific research and study on kidney and allied diseases and to contribute to the prevention and treatment of such diseases. It is also the policy of the State to ensure that every region in the country shall have an equal opportunity to benefit from public specialty healthcare services. Towards this end, the State shall create regional kidney and transplant institutes throughout the country.

Sec. 3. Regional Kidney and Transplant Institute (RKTi). – There is hereby created one (1) Regional Kidney and Transplant Institute (RKTi) in each of the administrative regions in the country. The RKTis shall provide specialized renal care services for Filipinos suffering from kidney diseases with special consideration for the marginalized members of the society: *Provided, That the operation and maintenance of the RKTi shall be under the Department of Health (DOH); Provided, further, That the RKTi shall pursue excellence in developing and establishing the highest level of training and research for physician and paramedical personnel; Provided, even further, That the RKTi may be created within the existing DOH Regional Hospitals and Medical*

Centers as deemed feasible by the DOH: *Provided, finally*, That the RKTl shall provide the same quality of renal care as that of the National Kidney and Transplant Institute.

Sec. 4. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act and the initial operation and maintenance of the RKTIs shall be charged against the Contingent Fund. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the subsequent annual General Appropriations Act under the budget of the DOH.

Sec. 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within ninety days (90) after the effectivity of this Act, the DOH and the Department of Budget and Management shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

Sec. 6. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation or in the *Official Gazette*.

Approved,