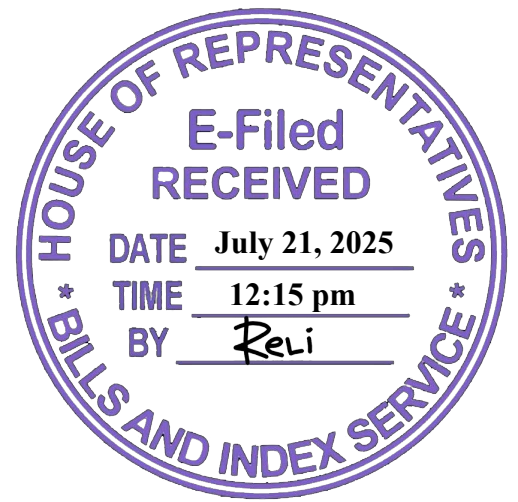




**Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City**

**Twentieth Congress
1st Regular Session
HOUSE BILL NO. 2116**



Introduced by Rep. Elisa T. Kho and Rep. Antonio T. Kho

EXPLANATORY NOTE

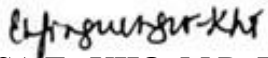
The 1987 Philippine Constitution unequivocally mandates the State to adopt a comprehensive health development program, ensuring health services are available and affordable to all citizens. It further underscores the right to quality healthcare, requiring appropriate steps to make such care universally accessible. This proposed bill directly aligns with these constitutional imperatives by seeking to establish a blood station within the Masbate Provincial Hospital.

The critical need for this measure stems from a persistent and alarming problem, the lack of an adequate and reliable blood supply in many parts of the country, a deficiency acutely felt during emergencies and calamities. This issue is particularly pronounced in the Province of Masbate, which faces unique geographical challenges. Being two to three hours by boat from mainland Bicol, the nearest province with a hospital equipped with a blood bank, Masbate residents are at a significant disadvantage when immediate access to blood and blood products is vital.

The creation of a dedicated blood station in Masbate Provincial Hospital will be a transformative solution. It will guarantee a reliable and sustainable source of blood and blood products, addressing a long-standing gap in healthcare services. This facility will be comprehensively responsible for the entire blood management process, from collection, rigorous testing, and precise processing to secure storage and efficient distribution, all in strict adherence to the standards and guidelines set by the Department of Health.

Beyond its core function, the blood station will also serve as a vital focal point for fostering a culture of voluntary blood donation within the province. It will actively collaborate with local government units, non-governmental organizations, and various stakeholders to launch and sustain widespread campaigns. These efforts will be crucial in promoting public awareness about the indispensable importance of blood donation and in encouraging more residents to become regular, voluntary blood donors, thereby building a robust and self-sufficient blood supply network.

To realize the vision of providing quality healthcare and ensuring the consistent availability of safe and adequate blood supply for the people of Masbate, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



REP. ELISA T. KHO, M.D.,FPCCP



REP. ANTONIO T. KHO



**Republic of the Philippines
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**Twentieth Congress
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**AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BLOOD STATION IN MASBATE
PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. This Act shall be known as the "Masbate Provincial Hospital Blood Station Act of 2024."

SECTION 2. Establishment. There is hereby established a blood station in Masbate Provincial Hospital, which shall be known as the Blood Station of Masbate Provincial Hospital.

SECTION 3. Mandate. The Blood Station shall be responsible for securing a reliable and sustainable blood supply in the Province of Masbate. Its functions shall include, but not be limited to, the collection, testing, processing, storage, and distribution of blood and blood products, in accordance with the standards and guidelines prescribed by the Department of Health. The Blood Station shall also serve as a focal point for the promotion and conduct of voluntary blood donation campaigns within the province.

SECTION 4. Governance. The Governing Body as provided under Section 3 of Department of Health (DOH) Administrative Order No. 2005-0002, or its succeeding relevant issuances, is hereby mandated to be the highest policy-making body in the implementation of this Act.

SECTION 5. Tax Exemption.

(a) The importation of medical and technical equipment solely for the direct, actual, and exclusive use of the Blood Station, upon certification by the Department of Health, shall be exempt from customs duties in accordance with the provisions of the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (Republic Act No. 10863).

(b) All grants, bequests, endowments, donations, and contributions made to the Blood Station for its direct, actual, and exclusive use shall be exempt from donor's tax. Furthermore, such donations shall be allowed as deductions from the gross income of the donor for purposes of computing the taxable income of the donor, subject to the pertinent provisions of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended.

SECTION 6. Appropriations. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 7. Suppletory Application. The provisions of Republic Act No. 7719, also known as the "National Blood Service Act of 1994," and its implementing rules and regulations, shall form part of this Act and shall be applied in a suppletory manner.

SECTION 8. Separability Clause. If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions hereof not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations. Within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act, the Governing Body, in consultation with the Department of Health, shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to fully implement the provisions of this Act.

Approved,