



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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 2289

Introduced by **Representative MA. VICTORIA CO-PILAR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The right to health of the people and to instill consciousness among them is enshrined in the Constitution since 1987. When the Local Government Code (LGC) was enacted in 1991, local government units (LGUs) were granted more powers, authorities, and responsibilities. The Implementing Rules and Regulations of the LGC was formulated after a year of its enactment and devolved the health services to LGUs.

Hospitals and field health services of the Department of Health (DOH) were among those devolved to the LGUs. The full implementation of the LGC in 1993 transferred the operation of provincial and district hospitals to the provincial governors and rural health units (RHUs) to the city and municipal mayors. Hence, not all hospitals are now controlled and supervised by the Department of Health (DOH).

In 2019, the Malasakit Centers Act was passed to improve the delivery of healthcare services and ensure access to and efficiency in availing medical and financial assistance for health services in the Philippines. Nonetheless, the Malasakit Program and Centers of the Act is established only in DOH Hospitals and the PGH. This creates unequal opportunity to medical and financial assistance since hospitals controlled and supervised by the LGUs are not covered by the mandatory establishment of the Malasakit Program and Centers.

With this measure, this representation intends to expand the scope of the Malasakit Centers Act by including LGU-controlled and -supervised hospitals as mandatory hospitals wherein Malasakit Program and Centers are mandatorily required to be established.

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

1 Section 6. Malasakit Centers. — There shall be established a Malasakit
2 Center in all DOH hospitals, LGU-CONTROLLED AND -SUPERVISED
3 HOSPITALS, and the PGH which shall:

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5 ~~[[The local government units (LGUs)]]~~ State universities and colleges (SUCs),
6 Department of National Defense (DND), Department of the Interior and Local
7 Government (DILG) including the Philippine National Police (PNP), Department
8 of Justice (DOJ) and other public hospitals may establish Malasakit Centers: xxx
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10 **SEC 4.** Section 9 of Republic Act No. 11463 is hereby amended to read as follows:
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12 Section 9. Medical and Financial Assistance.

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14 In cases of patients who are admitted in ~~[LGU and]~~ other public hospitals but who
15 are otherwise eligible for medical and financial assistance under this Act, they
16 may be extended such medical and financial assistance through the Malasakit
17 Centers or through the government agencies concerned.
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19 **SEC 5. *Separability Clause*** — If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or
20 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall
21 remain valid and subsisting.
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23 **SEC 6. *Repealing Clause*** - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order,
24 letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent
25 with the provision of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.
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27 **SEC 7. *Effectivity Clause*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
28 in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.
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30 Approved,