

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2483



Introduced by **Representative Roy M. Gonzales**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights declares that “Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing, and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age, or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.”

The 1987 Philippine Constitution expressly recognizes the right to health and aims to instill health consciousness among Filipinos (*Article II, Section 15*). Access to quality and affordable healthcare is a fundamental right of every Filipino. Further, it has explicitly mandated that the State shall adopt a comprehensive approach to health development, ensuring essential goods and services available to all the people at affordable cost (*Article XIII, Section 11*). The spirit of this bill is to echo the commitment of the State to social justice and ensure equitable access to healthcare for all Filipinos, with particular attention to the most vulnerable members of society.

Globally, cancer is a leading cause of death, and the burden is expected to rise significantly by 2050. In the Philippines, there were 188,976 new cancer cases in 2022. Approximately 1 in 5 people develop cancer in their lifetime, with roughly 1 in 9 men and 1 in 12 women dying from the disease.¹ In 2024, approximately 64,845 individuals in the Philippines were undergoing dialysis treatment, marking a significant 22% increase from 53,296 patients in 2023, a trend attributed to a rising burden of chronic kidney disease (CKD) in the country.

¹ <https://www.who.int/news/item/01-02-2024-global-cancer-burden-growing-amidst-mounting-need-for-services#:~:text=In%202022%2C%20there%20were%20an%20estimated%2020,in%2012%20women%20die%20from%20the%20disease.>

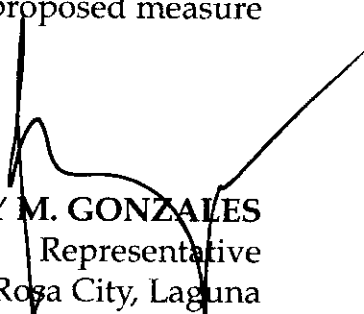
² [https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1252423#:~:text=MANILA%20%E2%80%93%20The%20number%20of%20individuals,CKD\)%20incidence%20in%20the%20country.](https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1252423#:~:text=MANILA%20%E2%80%93%20The%20number%20of%20individuals,CKD)%20incidence%20in%20the%20country.)

Santa Rosa City is a first-class component city in the landlocked Province of Laguna, which is politically subdivided into 18 barangays with a total land area of 54.84 square kilometers, or 21.17 square miles, which constitutes 2.84% of Laguna's total area. Its population as determined by the 2020 Census was 414,812. This represented 12.26% of the total population of Laguna province, or 2.56% of the overall population of the CALABARZON region. Based on these figures, the population density is computed at 7,564 inhabitants per square kilometer or 19,594 inhabitants per square mile. With the city's growing population and the only government-run hospital in the district, it becomes imperative to meet the increasing demand of healthcare needs, facilities, and services by its people.

At present, there is no existing special public hospital in the City of Santa Rosa. With the passage of this measure, the Santa Rosa Special Hospital will be the first special public health facility established and operated by the government in the city in reaffirmation of the State to introduce accessible and quality health care services for its citizens, especially the members of the marginalized and vulnerable sectors, to meet current and projected healthcare demands by the City of Santa Rosa.

By institutionalizing this bill, it will significantly enhance public health outcomes, reduce overcrowding in nearby hospital facilities, and provide accessible and quality healthcare in the service of the people of Santa Rosa's diverse population.

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


ROY M. GONZALES
Representative
Lone District of Sta. Rosa City, Laguna

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL HOSPITAL IN THE CITY OF SANTA ROSA,
LAGUNA, TO SPECIALIZE IN CANCER TREATMENT AND KIDNEY
DIALYSIS, TO BE KNOWN AS THE SANTA ROSA SPECIAL 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 "*Santa Rosa Special Hospital Act of 2025.*"

SECTION 2. *Declared Policy.* - It is hereby declared policy of the State to adopt a comprehensive approach to health development, ensuring essential goods and services are available to all the people at affordable cost.

Toward this end, the State shall establish and support the development of accessible, affordable, and specialized healthcare facilities to address the increasing prevalence of chronic and life-threatening illnesses such as cancer and kidney diseases, especially in the City of Santa Rosa.

SECTION 3. *Establishment of a Special Hospital.* - There shall be established a Special Hospital in the City of Santa Rosa, Laguna, to be known as the "Santa Rosa Special Hospital," which shall specialize in the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation of cancer and kidney diseases. The facilities shall be as follows:

- (a) *Cancer Treatment Facility* equipped with chemotherapy, medical oncology, radiation therapy, and cancer surgery services;
- (b) *Kidney Dialysis Center* equipped with hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis units and facilities for renal patient care; and
- (c) Additional diagnostic imaging, laboratory, outpatient, inpatient, pharmacy, and other medical ancillary services.

SECTION 4. *Tripartite Agreement with DOH, DPWH, and City of Santa Rosa.* -

The Department of Health (DOH) recognizes the urgent need to establish specialized public healthcare facilities, particularly for cancer treatment and kidney disease, in fast-growing urban areas such as the City of Santa Rosa in Southern Luzon. Thus, it shall be allocating and disbursing the necessary funds for the administrative and operational expenses of the Santa Rosa Special Hospital.

The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) shall undertake the planning, design, and construction of the hospital infrastructures, such as buildings, in accordance with national engineering and safety standards.

And the City of Santa Rosa is committed to supporting national health priorities and agrees to make available a parcel of land under a usufruct arrangement for the establishment of said special healthcare facility.

SECTION 5. *Appropriations.* - In reference to Section 4 of this Act, the amount necessary to implement the provisions of this Act shall be charged against the allocation in the General Appropriations Act (GAA) of the Department of Health (DOH).

SECTION 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Health shall promulgate and issue the necessary rules and regulations for the efficient implementation of this Act.

SECTION 7. *Separability Clause.* - 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.

SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, executive orders, issuances, and rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,