

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
1st Regular Session

House Bill No. **3938**



Introduced by Representative ERIC G. YAP

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Municipality of Kabayan, located in the eastern part of the Province of Benguet, is known for its rich cultural heritage, breathtaking natural landscapes, and thriving agricultural communities. Despite its significance to the province and the Cordillera Administrative Region, Kabayan continues to face pressing challenges in terms of access to adequate healthcare services.

At present, residents of Kabayan, including those from its far-flung barangays, must travel long and difficult routes to reach the nearest major healthcare facilities in neighboring municipalities. Given Benguet's mountainous terrain and the distance from urban centers, such travel is not only costly but also poses serious risks to patients in emergency situations. This gap in healthcare access disproportionately affects vulnerable sectors, including the elderly, pregnant women, children, and those with chronic illnesses.

The establishment of the Kabayan District Hospital will address this long-standing need by providing accessible, affordable, and quality healthcare services within the municipality. It will be under the direct control and supervision of the Provincial Government of Benguet, which ensures that the hospital's operations are responsive to the unique health needs and socio-economic conditions of the community.

The proposed hospital will serve as a primary health facility catering not only to Kabayan but also to neighboring areas, offering general medical and surgical services, maternal and child care, laboratory and diagnostic services, and emergency care. Beyond curative services, it will also provide preventive and promotive healthcare programs that align with national and provincial health priorities.

On account of situating a district hospital in Kabayan, Benguet, this measure will contribute to decongesting other hospitals in the province, reduce patient travel time, and ultimately save lives. It will also create local employment for healthcare professionals and allied workers, which encourages economic opportunities within the municipality.

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



HON. ERIC G. YAP

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF KABAYAN, PROVINCE
OF BENGUET, A DISTRICT HOSPITAL TO BE KNOWN AS THE KABAYAN
DISTRICT HOSPITAL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established in the Municipality of Kabayan, Province of Benguet, a district hospital to be known as the Kabayan District Hospital, which shall be under the direct control and supervision of the Provincial Government of Benguet.

SEC. 2. The Provincial Government of Benguet shall manage the Kabayan District Hospital, and prepare, in consultation with the Department of Health (DOH), a hospital development plan that is aligned with the Philippine Health Facility Development Plan. Any future increase in bed capacity, healthcare facilities, service capability, and human resources complement shall be based on the hospital development plan.

SEC. 3. The Provincial Government of Benguet shall provide the necessary funds for the establishment of the Kabayan District Hospital. The Secretary of DOH shall include in the Department's subsidy program, support for the capital outlay requirements of the Kabayan District Hospital.

SEC. 4. 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.

SEC. 5. All laws, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations, inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,