

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4421



Introduced by Representative **JESUS R. MARQUEZ**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to convert Dr. Rafael S. Tumbokon Memorial Hospital (DRSTMH) in Kalibo, Aklan to a Tertiary Level 3 hospital with an authorized bed capacity of 500.

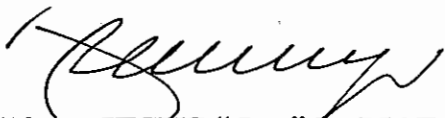
The history of DRSTMH can be traced back from its construction in 1929 when Aklan was still part of the province of Capiz. Formerly known as the Capiz Provincial Hospital, its successful construction is attributed to then political leaders of the time: spokesperson of Aklan to the Taft Commission, Simeon Mobo Reyes; native of Kalibo who became the acting Provincial Governor of Capiz, Emiliano Acevedo; former Kalibo mayor, Gregorio Pastrana; and former provincial governor of Capiz, Rafael Acuña. Only then it became the Aklan Provincial Hospital when the eventual separation was realized in 1956.

It was later renamed to its present name in 1980 by virtue of Batasang Pambansa No. 78 in honor of Dr. Rafael S. Tumbokon, one of the prime leaders of the country's health department. Dr. Tumbokon was once an assemblyman and served as Undersecretary of the Department of Health.

At present, it serves as the core referral hospital of the two legislative districts and five municipal hospitals in Aklan. However, it stands to have an implementing bed capacity rate of 420, far from its approved bed capacity rate of three hundred (300). This data shows that there has long been an insufficiency to accommodate the increasing number of patients seeking medical attention. With the continuing rise in population, the expansion of tourism, and the growing demand for comprehensive healthcare services, the hospital is often operating beyond its capacity. This situation results in overcrowding, longer waiting times, and overstretched medical personnel, ultimately compromising the delivery of efficient and quality healthcare services.

To address this urgent need, this bill seeks to increase the authorized bed capacity of Dr. Rafael S. Tumbokon Memorial Hospital from 300 to 500 beds, and to classify it as a tertiary level III hospital. This upgrade will ensure the enhancement of its facilities, the expansion of its services, and the augmentation of its medical workforce. With the reclassification, DRSTRMH will be better equipped to provide specialized and advanced medical care, thereby uplifting the standard of healthcare in the province.

Immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


HON. JESUS "Jess" R. MARQUEZ

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AN ACT
CONVERTING THE DR. RAFAEL S. TUMBUKON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL IN
THE CITY OF KALIBO, PROVINCE OF AKLAN, INTO A LEVEL III
HOSPITAL, TO BE KNOWN AS DR. RAFAEL S. TUMBOKON REGIONAL
MEDICAL CENTER AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **SECTION 1.** The Dr. Rafael S. Tumbukon Memorial Hospital in the City of Kalibo,
2 Province of Aklan is hereby converted into a Tertiary Level III Hospital to be known as
3 the Dr. Rafael S. Tumbokon Regional Medical Center (DRSTRMC), which shall be under
4 the direct control and supervision of the Department of Health (DOH).

5
6 **SEC. 2.** The authorized bed capacity of DRSTRMC shall be increased from three
7 hundred (300) to five hundred (500) beds.

8
9 **SEC. 3.** The existing professional health care services and facilities of DRSTRMC
10 shall also be upgraded to conform with and be commensurate to the increase in bed
11 capacity as provided for in Section 2 hereof.

12
13 **SEC. 4.** The existing workforce of the DRSTRMC, including doctors, nurses and
14 support personnel shall be correspondingly increased to conform with Section 1 & 2 of
15 this Act.

16
17 The Secretary of Health shall, after consultation with the Medical Center Chief of
18 DRSTRMC, and in coordination with the Secretary of Budget and Management and the
19 Chairperson of the Civil Service Commission, determine the additional new positions to
20 be created.

1 **SEC. 5.** The Secretary of Department of Health (DOH) shall include in the
2 Department's subsidy program its support for the capital outlay requirements of the
3 hospital, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.
4

5 **SEC. 6.** If any provision or part of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the
6 remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.
7

8 **SEC. 7.** All laws, decrees, executive orders, and other presidential issuance which
9 are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.
10

11 **SEC. 8.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
12 Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,