

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4764



Introduced by **Representative AGATHA PAULA “AGAY” A. CRUZ**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Mayor Isagani C. Pascual Memorial Hospital (formerly *Ospital ng Guiguinto*) has long been the frontline health facility for the municipality and its neighboring towns. Yet with only 25 beds for a rapidly growing town of more than 113,000¹ residents, the hospital is operating far beyond its intended capacity. Under the Department of Health’s Philippine Health Facility Development Plan 2020-2040 targets 2.5 to 3 hospital beds per 1,000 population by 2040 to ensure adequate access and quality of care. Guiguinto’s current ratio, however, is less than half of that benchmark. Clearly, Guiguinto’s lone public hospital is carrying a load it was never designed to bear.

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed and magnified this strain. In recent years, the hospital repeatedly reached critical occupancy levels, forcing the health care staff to set up tents outside its premises as makeshift wards. Patients who could not be accommodated had to travel to the nearest hospitals in Malolos City or in the Municipality of Bulakan for care, leading to added costs, delays in treatment, and increased morbidity and mortality risks. For others, the nearest frontline health facility is either distant, overburdened, or both.

This bill is a decisive step toward bridging that gap. It seeks to convert the Mayor Isagani C. Pascual Memorial Hospital into a 50-bed capacity district hospital, and consequently upgrading its medical facilities, strengthening its personnel complement, and enhancing the scope and quality of its services. This timely and essential legislative measure is a strategic investment in public health security and equity for the people of Guiguinto and its surrounding towns.

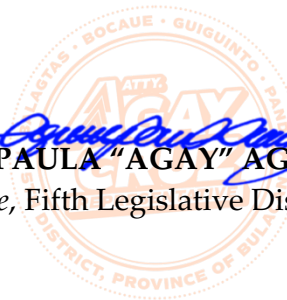
With its passage, we aim to provide *Bulakenyos* with affordable, quality, and accessible health care that is closer to home. This will not merely fulfill a local need, but more importantly, this will bolster our national commitment to universal health care as we move Mayor Isagani C. Pascual District Hospital closer to meeting national bed-to-population ratio target, reduce burdens on patients and health care workers, and bring

¹ As of the 2020 Census

dignity in health care.

Considering the foregoing, passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


AGATHA PAULA "AGAY" AGUILAR CRUZ
Representative, Fifth Legislative District of Bulacan



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4764

Introduced by **Representative AGATHA PAULA “AGAY” A. CRUZ**

AN ACT
CONVERTING THE MAYOR ISAGANI C. PASCUAL MEMORIAL HOSPITAL,
FORMERLY KNOWN AS OSPITAL NG GUIGUINTO IN GUIGUINTO, BULACAN,
INTO A DISTRICT HOSPITAL, INCREASING ITS BED CAPACITY FROM
TWENTY-FIVE (25) BEDS TO FIFTY (50) BEDS, 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 Mayor Isagani C. Pascual Memorial Hospital, formerly known as
2 Ospital ng Guiguinto in Tabe, Guiguinto, Bulacan, is hereby converted into a district
3 hospital. Its authorized bed capacity shall be increased from twenty-five (25) to fifty (50)
4 beds. Any future increase in bed capacity shall be consistent with the hospital
5 development plan that shall be prepared by its Chief of Hospital and submitted to the
6 Department of Health (DOH).
7

8 **Section 2.** The existing professional healthcare services and facilities of the Mayor
9 Isagani C. Pascual District Hospital shall also be upgraded to conform with and be
10 commensurate to the increase in bed capacity as provided for in Section 1 hereof.
11

12 **Section 3.** The existing workforce of the Mayor Isagani C. Pascual District Hospital,
13 which includes doctors, nurses, allied healthcare professionals, and support personnel,
14 shall be increased correspondingly.
15

16 **Section 4.** The Mayor Isagani C. Pascual District Hospital shall be under the
17 administrative control of the DOH through its Centers for Health Development (CHD).
18 The DOH shall issue the implementing rules and regulations for the transfer of
19 administration of the hospital within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of the Act.
20

21 **Section 5.** The Secretary of Health shall include the implementation of this Act in
22 the DOH's programs. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall

1 be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into
2 law.

3
4 **Section 6.** If any part or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid,
5 the remainder thereof not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

6
7 **Section 7.** All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules, and regulations, or parts
8 thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified
9 accordingly.

10
11 **Section 8.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following the completion of
12 its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

13
14 *Approved,*