

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

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 5848**



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**Introduced by: REPRESENTATIVE HON. RAMON C. NOLASCO**

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**AN ACT**  
**UPGRADING THE DR. TOMAS NOLASCO SR. MEMORIAL HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY**  
**OF GATTARAN, PROVINCE OF CAGAYAN INTO A LEVEL II GENERAL HOSPITAL TO BE**  
**KNOWN AS DR. TOMAS NOLASCO SR. GENERAL HOSPITAL, PLACING IT UNDER THE DIRECT**  
**SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, APPROPRIATING FUNDS**  
**THEREFOR**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

One of the means to implement the constitutional mandate enunciated in Section 11, Article XIII of the 1987 Constitution<sup>1</sup> is to ensure that our health facilities, especially hospitals, in cities and provinces are improved and provided with adequate resources and support to serve the needs of the people.

For more than twenty-six (26) years, the Dr. Tomas Nolasco Sr. Memorial Hospital (DTNSMH) has served not only the ailing constituents of the municipality of Gattaran, Cagayan but also patients from neighboring towns of Alcala, Baggao, Lallo, Sto. Nino and Lasam. The DTNSMH, despite limited facilities and medical professionals, tried its best to accommodate patients from nearby municipalities.

However, the growing population of the municipality of Gattaran and its nearby towns and the absence of a nearby higher-level medical facilities emphasize the need to upgrade and rehabilitate the medical facilities to allow it to provide a higher quality of healthcare services and to alleviate the hardships of patients from neighboring towns to travel long hours to Tuguegarao City to avail the services of a higher-level kind of hospital.

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<sup>1</sup> Sec. 11 the State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the underprivileged sick, elderly, disabled women and children. The State shall endeavor to provide free medical care to paupers.

Accordingly, this bill seeks to upgrade the existing Dr. Tomas Nolasco Sr. Memorial Hospital in the Municipality of Gattaran in the Province of Cagayan into a Level II General Hospital under the direct supervision and control of the Department of Health, to increase its bed capacity to 100 beds, to upgrade its professional healthcare services and facilities, and to authorize the increase in its medical personnel.

Considering the laudable objective of this bill, its immediate passage is earnestly sought at the earliest time possible.

  
HON. RAMON C. NOLASCO

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**SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, 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. Tomas Nolasco Sr. Memorial Hospital (DTNSMH) in the  
2 Municipality of Gattaran, Province of Cagayan, is hereby upgraded from Level I into a Level II  
3 General Hospital to be known as the Dr. Tomas Nolasco Sr. General Hospital (DTNSGH) which  
4 shall be placed under the management, direct supervision, and control of the Department of  
5 Health (DOH).

6           The authorized bed capacity of the medical center is hereby increased from ten (10)  
7 to one hundred (100) beds. Any future increase in the hospital's bed capacity shall be based  
8 on its hospital development plan which shall be prepared by the hospital management of the  
9 Dr. Tomas Nolasco Hospital and submitted to the DOH to reflect the development goals of  
10 the hospital.

1 SEC 2. The existing operating fund, service capability, and professional healthcare  
2 services of Dr. Tomas Nolasco Hospital shall be upgraded and increased to conform with and  
3 be commensurate to its nationalization and the increase in bed capacity as provided in Section  
4 1 hereof, consistent with the hospital development plan.

5  
6 SEC. 3 The existing workforce of the DTNSMH, including doctors, nurses, and support  
7 personnel shall be correspondingly increased to conform with Section 1 of this Act, consistent  
8 with the hospital development plan.

9 The DOH, in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM)  
10 and the Civil Service Commission (CSC) and in consultation with the management of Dr. Tomas  
11 Nolasco Hospital, shall determine the additional plantilla positions to be created and filled up.

12  
13 SEC. 4 The Secretary of the DOH shall immediately include in the Department's  
14 program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual  
15 General Appropriation's Act.

16  
17 SEC3. 5 Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOH shall formulate  
18 the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.  
19 The IRR shall be consistent and implemented with the hospital development plan.

20  
21 SEC. 6. If any portion or provision of this Act be declared unconstitutional, invalid or  
22 inoperable, the remaining portions or provisions hereof that are not affected shall remain in  
23 full force and effect.

24  
25 SEC. 7. All other laws, decrees, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations, or  
26 parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby amended,  
27 repealed, or modified accordingly.

28  
29 SEC. 8. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*  
30 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

*Approved,*