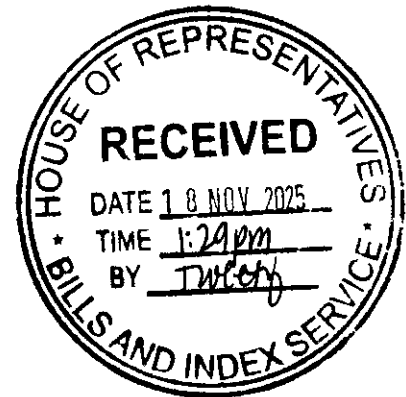




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 6119



Introduced by **Representative KATRINA REIKO CHUA - TAI**
1st District, Zamboanga City

AN ACT
UPGRADING THE LABUAN GENERAL HOSPITAL INTO A TERTIARY LEVEL
HOSPITAL BY INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY FOR GENERAL CARE
SERVICES TO TWO HUNDRED (200), APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Guided by the constitutional mandates, particularly Section 15 of Article II of the Constitution, the State has a solemn duty to protect and promote the people's right to health. It must also encourage health consciousness among citizens. Section 11, Article XIII, directs the government toward a comprehensive health development framework. It further mandates that essential medical services be accessible, especially to the economically disadvantaged and those most in need.

In accordance with these constitutional mandates, I present a legislative proposal that will directly impact the lives of Zamboanga City residents with purpose and respect.

For over four decades, Labuan General Hospital has quietly been a pillar of hope for improving public health care on Zamboanga City's West Coast. Born from Batas Pambansa Blg. In 1983, 517 became a lifeline far beyond its modest walls. As an extension of Zamboanga City Medical Center, the hospital's role has outgrown its 10 beds and its 502.25-square-meter building. It is located 35 kilometers from downtown. Each year, it struggles to meet the City's growing healthcare needs.

Every day, families facing poverty, distance, and little transportation turn to Labuan General Hospital. Yet, the hospital's limits force many to endure crowded halls and long waits. Some must seek care far from home. These are not just mere stories, they are the truth of children waiting for relief, mothers sacrificing their health, and elders traveling because there are no readily available alternatives.

Moved by these struggles and guided by duty, this bill proposes converting Labuan General Hospital, located in Zamboanga City, into a Tertiary Level Hospital with 200 beds. The measure aims to expand the facility and advance fair healthcare. It seeks to uphold dignity and create a healthier Zamboanga City.

Upgrading to a tertiary hospital brings specialized care, advanced equipment, and life-saving treatments to my constituents. Above all, it provides our medical professionals with the right tools and facilities. Families have comfort knowing help is nearby in a crisis.

Honorable colleagues, this measure is rooted in compassion, fairness, and our shared duty to uplift lives. Families must feel reassured that help is nearby in a crisis. Now is the time to act. Support this measure and help ensure that every Zamboangueño receives quality, accessible healthcare.

IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING, immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katrina', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

KATRINA REIKO CHUA - TAI



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1 **AN ACT**

2 **UPGRADING THE LABUAN GENERAL HOSPITAL INTO A TERTIARY LEVEL**
3 **HOSPITAL BY INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY FOR GENERAL CARE**
4 **SERVICES TO TWO HUNDRED (200), APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND**
5 **FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

8 **SECTION 1.** The Labuan General Hospital located in Barangay Labuan, First
9 Legislative District of Zamboanga City is hereby upgraded into a tertiary level hospital and
10 the authorized bed capacity for general health care services be increased to two hundred
11 (200).

12 **SECTION 2.** The Department of Health (DOH), in coordination with the Department
13 of Budget and Management (DBM) and the Labuan General Hospital, shall
14 determine the additional staffing plantilla to be created pursuant to this Act.

15 **SECTION 3.** The increase in bed capacity of the Labuan General Hospital to two
16 hundred (200) beds for general care services shall be implemented for a period of not more
17 than two (2) years from the approval of this Act.

18 **SECTION 4.** The Secretary of Health shall immediately include in the Department's
19 programs the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual
20 General Appropriations Act.

21 **SECTION 5.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
22 Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

23 **Approved,**