



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City



TWENTIETH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. **8432**

Introduced by Representative Maria Angela S. Garcia

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Municipality of Bagac in the Province of Bataan has experienced steady growth in tourism, residential development, and economic activity in recent years. The municipality hosts major heritage, cultural, and tourism destinations such as Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar and the historic Mount Samat National Shrine, attracting a growing number of domestic and international visitors annually.

Bagac also lies along the emerging Bagac–Morong tourism and economic corridor, which connects to the Subic Bay Freeport Zone and serves as a gateway for tourism and economic activities in western Bataan. With the continued development of tourism facilities, coastal destinations, and road networks in the area, the demand for accessible and reliable health care services has significantly increased.

Despite these developments, Bagac currently lacks a government hospital with sufficient capacity and upgraded facilities capable of providing comprehensive emergency and inpatient medical services. Residents, workers, and tourists often need to travel to other municipalities or cities in the province to access hospital care, which can delay critical medical treatment, particularly during emergencies.

Given the municipality's growing tourism sector and its coastal location, tourism-related incidents such as vehicular accidents, recreational injuries, and coastal or marine-related emergencies may occur and require immediate medical attention. The presence of a fully equipped hospital within the municipality is therefore essential to ensure timely and effective emergency medical response.

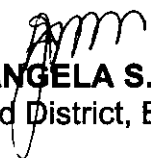
The conversion of the Bagac Medicare Community Hospital into the Bagac General Hospital will strengthen the local health system by expanding hospital capacity, upgrading facilities, and enhancing the delivery of professional health care services to the people of Bagac and nearby communities.

This measure is likewise consistent with the objectives of Republic Act No. 11223 (Universal Health Care Act), which seeks to ensure equitable access to quality and affordable health care services for all Filipinos through a strengthened and integrated health care delivery system.

The establishment of the Bagac General Hospital will:

1. Improve access to emergency and hospital services for residents, workers, and tourists in Bagac and nearby areas;
2. Strengthen the provincial health care referral network in Bataan;
3. Enhance the capacity of the municipality to respond to medical emergencies, disasters, and tourism-related incidents; and
4. Support the sustainable tourism and economic development of the Bagac–Morong corridor.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


MARIA ANGELA S. GARCIA
Third District, Bataan



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AN ACT
CONVERTING THE BAGAC MEDICARE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BAGAC, PROVINCE OF BATAAN INTO A
GENERAL HOSPITAL TO BE KNOWN AS THE BAGAC GENERAL HOSPITAL,
INCREASING ITS BED CAPACITY, UPGRADING ITS FACILITIES AND
PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. *Conversion.*

The Bagac Medicare Community Hospital located in the Municipality of Bagac, Province of Bataan, is hereby converted into a general hospital to be known as the Bagac General Hospital, which shall be under the supervision and control of the Department of Health (DOH).

SEC. 2. *Bed Capacity and Service Capability.*

The Bagac General Hospital shall have an initial bed capacity of not less than fifty (50) beds, which may be increased by the Department of Health based on the healthcare needs of the Municipality of Bagac and neighboring areas.

The hospital shall provide emergency, outpatient, and inpatient medical services, including but not limited to general medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, basic surgical services, laboratory and diagnostic services, pharmacy services, and other allied health services.

The hospital shall likewise be equipped to respond to medical emergencies, trauma cases, and other health incidents arising from tourism activities, road accidents, coastal and marine-related incidents, and other public safety

emergencies occurring within the Municipality of Bagac and nearby tourism destinations.

SEC. 3. *Professional Health Care Services.*

The Department of Health shall ensure the upgrading of the hospital's service capability, including the provision of modern medical equipment and facilities, and the hiring, training, and deployment of additional physicians, nurses, midwives, medical technologists, pharmacists, and other allied health professionals necessary for the efficient operation of the hospital.

SEC. 4. *Integration with the Local Health Care System.*

The Bagac General Hospital shall serve as a referral hospital for municipal health facilities in Bagac and nearby municipalities and shall be integrated into the provincial health care provider network in support of the implementation of the Universal Health Care Program under Republic Act No. 11223.

SEC. 5. *Appropriations.*

The amount necessary for the conversion, upgrading, expansion of facilities, procurement of medical equipment, and operationalization of the Bagac General Hospital shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*

Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Health shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 7. *Separability Clause.*

If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.*

All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 9. *Effectivity.*

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

Approved.