

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 266



.....  
Introduced by **HONORABLE LUIS RAYMUND F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.**  
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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The Province of Camarines Sur including the cities of Naga and Iriga is the only province in the Philippines without any provincial hospital. The reason for this is that the provincial hospital then located in the Municipality of Naga which later on became a city, was converted into a regional hospital and then into the Bicol Medical Center (BMC).

But the Bicol Medical Center (BMC) as it stands today for the various services it has to offer, has only three hundred (300) bed capacity in its main buildings in Naga City which are earmarked among others for Internal Medicine, Obstetrics (OB), Gynecology (Gyne), Pediatrics, Surgery, Orthopedics, Eyes, Ears, Nose and Throat (EENT), Dialysis Unit, Physical Therapy Services and Diagnostic Laboratory Facilities. The Bicol Medical Center itself needs expansion in terms of bed capacity, equipment and professional personnel.

It should be highlighted that one of the biggest gaps in the province of Camarines Sur in terms of health care is the Obstetrics, Gynecology and Pediatrics needs of the province of Camarines Sur with thirty-five (35) municipalities and two (2) cities.

Apart from local concerns, it is to be re-emphasized that it is our country's commitment under the UN Sustainable Development Goals to reduce child mortality, improve maternal health and combat other women's and children's diseases. The establishment of the Bicol Women's and Children's Hospital as herein proposed is geared towards the attainment of such goal within the province of Camarines Sur.

It is therefore proposed in this bill that instead of reestablishing a provincial hospital for general medical services, a WOMEN'S and CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL be

organized as a specialized institution that will complement and supplement the facilities and services that the Bicol Medical Center is presently able to offer.

It is proposed therefore, that a two hundred (200) bed capacity hospital strictly for women's and children's health requirements as defined under this bill be organized through the enactment of the appropriate law as herein proposed under this bill.

Considering the merits of this bill, early approval hereof is earnestly requested.



**LUIS RAYMUND F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.**

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**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PAMPLONA IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR, TO BE KNOWN AS THE BICOL WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**SECTION 1.** There shall be established under the direct supervision of the Secretary of the Department of Health, a women's and children's hospital in the Municipality of Pamplona in the Province of Camarines Sur, to be known as the Bicol Women's and Children's Hospital.

**SECTION 2.** The hospital shall specialize on the care of women and children and shall focus on medical services which shall include but not limited to: Women and children health care, prenatal testing, obstetrics and gynecological services, pediatrics care, lactation programs, nutrition services, neonatal care, immunization services, postpartum depression support and education classes for women's and children health awareness and parenting.

**SECTION 3.** The Bicol Women's and Children's Hospital to be established under this Act is hereby authorized to operate on a 200-bed capacity dedicated for women and children's health requirements.

**SECTION 4.** The Department of Health (DOH) shall provide or cause to be provided the design of the medical facility, requirements of the hospital, the diagnostic and treatment functions such as clinical laboratories, imaging, surgery, emergency services, and other related services. The Secretary of Health or his deputized officer in the Department of Health shall in consultation with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) prepare and submit the organizational structure and personnel complement, the proposed furniture and fixtures, the equipment components of the hospital and the

estimated costs thereof. For the purpose of supporting the funding requirements of the hospital, grants-in-aids or official development assistance from international institutions may also be obtained.

**SECTION 5.** The amounts necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

**SECTION 6.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,