

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 701

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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REGISTRATION UNIT BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE

Introduced by HON. SANDRA Y. ERIGUEL, M.D.

EXPLANATORY NOTE


This Bill, which was previously filed in the 15th and 16th Congress, seeks to increase the authorized bed capacity of Naguilian District Hospital in the Municipality of Naguilian, Province of La Union, from twenty five (25) to fifty (50).

This Bill is pursuant to the constitutional guarantee that the State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost.

The increasing population in the district as well as the distances between existing hospitals renders necessary the proposed upgrading of the Naguilian District Hospital. It caters mostly to residents of Naguilian, La Union, with a population of almost 70,000, and the nearby municipalities of Bagulin, Bauang, and Burgos, and other parts of Benguet province, all of which are composed mostly of indigenous people (IP). The population of Bagulin, for instance, is more than 90% indigenous people. Unfortunately, the next nearest government hospitals within La Union are the La Union Medical Center in Agoo and the Ilocos Training Regional and Medical Center in San Fernando City, which are both an hour away. It would take much effort for these residents to come down from the mountainous areas to go to these hospitals in the lowlands most especially in emergency situations.

The Naguilian District Hospital is steadfast in its goal of providing quality health care to the people of La Union and the nearby provinces. It is therefore very crucial that the Hospital be able to increase its bed capacity, upgrade its services and facilities, and employ more medical personnel.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this Bill is earnestly sought.


SANDRA Y. ERIGUEL, M.D.

Second District, La Union

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SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
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HOUSE BILL NO. 701

Introduced by HON. SANDRA Y. ERIGUEL, M.D.

AN ACT
INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE NAGUILIAN DISTRICT
HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NAGUILIAN, PROVINCE OF LA
UNION FROM TWENTY-FIVE (25) 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:

SECTION 1. The authorized bed capacity of the Naguilian District Hospital in the Municipality of Naguilian, Province of La Union is hereby increased from twenty-five (25) to fifty (50) beds.

SEC. 2. The existing hospital facilities and professional health care services of the Naguilian District Hospital shall, as far as practicable, be correspondingly upgraded to include the increase in the number of medical personnel. The Department of Health, in coordination with the concerned local government officials, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 3. The increase in bed capacity of the Naguilian District Hospital from twenty-five (25) to fifty (50) shall be implemented for a period of not more than two (2) years from the approval of this Act.

SEC. 4. The Provincial Government of La Union shall provide the necessary funds to support the increase in bed capacity of the Naguilian District Hospital and the corresponding upgrading of its facilities and services. The Secretary of Health shall include in the Department's subsidy program its support for the capital outlay requirements of the hospital.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,