Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1152

Introducted by
HON. YEDDA MARIE K. ROMUALDEZ
and
HON. FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to covert the Schistosomiasis Control and Research Hospital into a general hospital to be known as the Governor Benjamin T. Romualdez General Hospital and increase its bed capacity from twenty-five (15) to one hundred (100), thereby upgrading its medical services and facilities and authorizing the increase of its medical personnel.

The Schistosomiasis Control and Research Hospital was founded in 1975 by President Ferdinand E. Marcos through Presidential Decree 1062, through the efforts of then Leyte Governor Benjamin T. Romualdez as the research arm of the Schistosomiasis Control and Research Service to provide clinical service to patients with schistosomiasis nationwide. Presently, the hospital has already expanded its medical and ancillary services and attended to patients with various illnesses and diseases, catering to patients coming from Palo, consisting of 33 barangays and the nearby towns of Tanauan, Tolosa, Mayorga, Jaro and Sta. Fe, Samar and as far as Surigao.

From a research hospital focusing on addressing schistosomiasis in the area, the SHRC is continuing to upgrade its facilities, management system and manpower skills to provide the health care needs by its growing number of patients in the region. Indeed, with these commitments, the expanded Gov. Benjamin T. Romualdez will continue to be a beacon of hope in the eastern part of the country.

The 1987 Constitution, Article XIII, Section 11 states, "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. 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." By expanding its mandate and converting it into a general hospital, this proposed legislation hopes to strengthen the capacity of the Governor Benjamin T. Romualdez General Hospital to provide accessible, affordable, equitable, sustainable quality hospital services to all patients especially the poor.

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

Rep. YEDDA MARIE K. ROMUALDEZ
Representative, Tingog Sinirangan

Rep. FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ
Representative, First District of Leyte
Republic of the Philippines

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1352

Introduced by
HON. YEDDA MARIE K. ROMUALDEZ
and
HON. FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ

AN ACT CONVERTING THE SCHISTOSOMIASIS CONTROL AND
RESEARCH HOSPITAL IN PALO, LEYTE INTO A GENERAL HOSPITAL TO
BE KNOWN AS THE GOVERNOR BENJAMIN T. ROMUALDEZ GENERAL
HOSPITAL, INCREASING ITS BED CAPACITY FROM TWENTY-FIVE (25)
TO ONE HUNDRED (100), UPGRADING ITS SERVICES AND FACILITIES
AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF
ITS MEDICAL PERSONNEL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

Section 1. The Schistosomiasis Control and Research Hospital in Palo,
Leyte is hereby converted into a general hospital to be known as the Gov.
Benjamin T. Romualdez General Hospital.

Section 2. The authorized bed capacity of the Schistosomiasis Control
and Research Hospital in Palo, Leyte shall be increased from twenty-five (25)
to two hundred (200).
Section 3. The primary mandate of the Gov. Benjamin T. Romualdez General Hospital for schistosomiasis treatment, management and prevention and research shall continue to the interest of schistosomiasis patients.

Section 4. The Department of Health shall determine the service capability of Gov. Benjamin T. Romualdez General Hospital and allow the development and upgrading of general hospital services.

Section 5. The existing human resource requirement of the Gov. Benjamin T. Romualdez General Hospital be correspondingly increased to conform with the aforementioned increase in authorized bed capacity. The Department of Health in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management and the Civil Service Commission shall determine and approve the additional plantilla positions to be created and filled upon prior consultation and recommendation by the Gov. Benjamin T. Romualdez General Hospital.

Section 6. Existing service facilities and professional healthcare services are also hereby upgraded to conform with and be commensurate to the aforementioned increase in authorized bed capacity. The Gov. Benjamin T. Romualdez General Hospital shall submit to the Department of Health its proposed hospital development plan and the additional clinical departments and clinical units it requires to meet the increased authorized bed capacity.

Section 7. The increase in bed capacity of the Gov. Benjamin T. Romualdez General Hospital shall be implemented for a period of not more than two (2) years from the approval of this Act.

Section 8. The Secretary of Health shall immediately include in the Department’s programs the implementation of the Act, the funding of which shall be charged against the unappropriated balance of the Department of Health. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the continued operation of the
Gov. Benjamin T. Romualdez General Hospital shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Section 9. If any part or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts for provisions hereof which are not affected shall continue to remain in full force and effect.

Section 10. All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act are deemed amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 11. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following completion of its publication in the Official Gazette and in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.