Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 3266

Introduced by HON. VICENTE S.E. VELOSO III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to Philippine Statistics Authority, as of 2018, Region VIII is the Third Poorest Region in the Philippines; within Region VIII, the Third District of Leyte is its poorest District.

Corollarily, Article XIII, Section 11 of the 1987 Constitution mandates that the “State shall endeavor to provide free medical care to the poor.” Yet, the Third District of Leyte has no district hospital. It only has two (2) infirmaries – one in Tabango and another one in Calubian. It was because of such deficiency, not to mention its being about 160 kilometers away from Tacloban City where Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center (EVRMC) is located, that in 2017, the Department of Health decided to put up an EVRMC Extension in Villaba, Leyte which, at present, has only 25 bed capacity.

As an extension hospital of EVRMC, it is supposed to cater to the medical needs not only of the 210,000 residents of the Third District of Leyte, it too was envisioned to provide medical care to residents of the whole of Biliran and residents of the Second and Fourth Districts of Leyte, or a total of 835,000 (more or less) residents. But even if we are to reckon only with Third District of Leyte residents, at the World Health Organization Standard ratio of 1 bed for every 1,000 population, a 200 bed capacity will be necessary to address the aforequoted mandate of the Constitution.

It is in view of the foregoing that approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

VICENTE S.E. VELOSO III
Representative, 3rd District of Leyte
Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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Introduced by HON. VICENTE S.E. VELOSO III

AN ACT CONVERTING EASTERN VISAYAS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER – VILLABA EXTENSION (EVRMC-VILLABA EXTENSION) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF VILLABA, PROVINCE OF LEYTE, TO A TERTIARY HOSPITAL AND TO INCREASE ITS BED CAPACITY FROM TWENTY-FIVE (25) BEDS TO TWO HUNDRED (200) BEDS, UPGRADING THE SERVICE, FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE THEREIN, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. The Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center Extension in Villaba, Leyte shall be converted to a tertiary hospital to be known as Eastern Visayas Medical Center – Villaba Extension or “EVRMC-Villaba Extension”.

SECTION 2. Its present twenty-five (25) bed capacity shall be increased to two hundred (200) beds.

SECTION 3. The existing workforce of the EVRMC-Villaba Extension shall be correspondingly increased to conform with the afore-mandated increase in authorized bed capacity.

SECTION 4. The Department of Health, in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management and the Civil Service Commission, shall determine the additional plantilla positions to be created and filled up as a result of the herein mandated increase in bed capacity.

SECTION 5. The EVRMC-Villaba Extension shall submit to the Department of Health its proposed hospital development plan, the additional clinical departments, as well as buildings, equipment and facilities needed to meet the increased authorized bed capacity herein mandated.

SECTION 6. The amount needed 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 every year thereafter.
SECTION 7. The increase in bed capacity herein provided shall be implemented for a period of not more than two (2) years from approval of this Act.

SECTION 8. The Secretary of the Department of Health shall include in the Department’s programs the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.