



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila



EIGHTHEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

H. B. No. 3561

Introduced by Representative TEODORICO "NONONG" T. HARESCO, JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the Filipino people and instill health consciousness among them.

The Ibajay District Hospital was established under Republic Act No. 2759 on June 19, 1960 with a bed capacity of twenty-five (25). From a remodeled Puericulture Center Building near the town hall of the Municipality of Ibajay where it was housed, it opened its doors to the public on March 1963 as Ibajay Emergency Hospital, catering to out-patients only. In June 1963, with the filling up of the required number of personnel, the former Ibajay Emergency Hospital started admitting patients. Ten years later, sometime in 1974, the hospital was transferred to its present location at Barangay Agbajo, Ibajay, Aklan, along the national highway, just a kilometer west from its former site. The Ibajay Emergency Hospital was later renamed as Ibajay District Hospital in the early 1980's, serving also the other towns in the western district of Aklan Province.

With the implementation of the Local Government Code of 1991, the administration and supervision of the Ibajay District Hospital were devolved to the local government unit of the Province of Aklan in January 1993. Prior to the devolution, Ibajay District Hospital operated as a twenty-five (25) bed Level II hospital. However, Ibajay District Hospital's licensing category was downgraded to level I a year after the devolution to the Province of Aklan.

The Ibajay District Hospital is the Core Referral Hospital of five (5) municipalities in the newly-created Second (2nd) District of Aklan Province, namely Tangalan, Ibajay, Nabas, Malay, and Buruanga with a catchment population of 179,891 based on the 2015 census. It also serves the residents of the five (5) barangays of the neighboring town of Pandan, Antique. Hence, there is an urgent demand to improve the health care services of the Ibajay District Hospital by converting it into the Western Aklan General Hospital and increasing its authorized bed capacity to two hundred (200), to meet the increasing medical needs of our beloved Aklanon.

The passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


TEODORICO "NONONG" T. HARESCO, JR.



H. B. No. 3561

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AN ACT
CONVERTING THE IBAJAY DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF
IBAJAY, PROVINCE OF AKLAN INTO A TWO-HUNDRED BED CAPACITY
HOSPITAL TO BE KNOWN AS THE WESTERN AKLAN GENERAL HOSPITAL,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **SECTION 1.** This Act shall be known as the "*Western Aklan General Hospital.*"

2
3 **SEC. 2.** The I Bajay District Hospital shall be converted and renamed into the Western
4 Aklan General Hospital, with its authorized bed capacity to be increased from twenty-five (25)
5 to two hundred (200), which shall be implemented for a period of not more than three (3) years
6 from the approval of this Act.

7
8 **SEC. 3.** The amount necessary for the establishment and initial operation, including the
9 acquisition of additional personnel, medical equipment and facilities, and the construction of
10 needed infrastructure of the Western Aklan General Hospital shall be included by the Secretary
11 of Health in the Department of Health's projects and programs proportional to the successful
12 establishment, manning, provisioning and equipping of the Western Aklan General Hospital,
13 with the initial appropriation to be charged against the current year's appropriations and
14 thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for its continued operations shall be included in the
15 annual General Appropriations Act.

16
17 **SEC. 4.** All laws, presidential decrees, letters of instruction, rules and regulations that
18 are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

19
20 **SEC. 5.** If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the same shall
21 not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions not affected thereby.

22
23 **SEC. 6.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days upon its publication in at least two (2)
24 newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,