EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 5 (5), Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution, states in part that “the State shall ... ensure that teaching will attract and retain its rightful share of the best available talents through adequate remuneration and other means of job satisfaction and fulfillment”.

The State recognizes the indispensable role of all teachers and personnel in nation-building. Teachers perform their duties not only inside school premises during the school calendar but also during school breaks. They perform in behalf of the Philippine Statistics Authority to gather information and other civic activities upon the request of local and national officials. As a result, teachers are often overworked and suffer from various ailments which lead to serious illnesses, and opt to leave their profession. Thus, the State shall provide health facilities specifically to address the health needs of teachers and their dependents.

This bill seeks to establish a special hospital to provide health and wellness for teachers and their dependents.

In light of the foregoing, immediate passage of the bill is earnestly sought.

VIRGILIO S. LACSON
Manila Teachers Party-List
AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A FIVE HUNDRED (500) BED CAPACITY HOSPITAL FOR
TEACHERS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREOF

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as “Philippine Teachers’
Hospital Act.”

Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to
recognize the role of Filipino teachers in national progress and development, protect
their interests and well-being, and provide them and their dependents access to
affordable health care and development through an integrated and comprehensive
approach. Towards the end, the State shall create a Teachers hospital which will make
available to the health and wellness of teachers, whether in active duty or retired, and
their dependents.

Sec. 3. Creation. – Special hospital for teachers shall be the primary facility for
the health and wellness of teachers and their dependents. It is hereby established one
(1) Teachers’ Hospital in every major city in the country.

Sec. 4. Qualified beneficiaries. – The following persons shall be entitled to the
benefits of this Act, subject to the following qualifications:
1. Any person qualifying as a teacher as defined by law, incumbent or retired;

2. Any person teaching any subject, including practical and vocational arts, at any level of schooling in all public schools;

3. Any person employed as school administrative support employees;

4. Physicians, dentists, and nurses employed exclusively by public schools;

5. Officials and employees of the Department of Education (DepEd) and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED);

6. Other public school employees, who have rendered a minimum of ten (10) years of continuous service prior to their retirement; and

7. Any of the following teaching dependents:
   1. Legitimate spouse;
   2. Minor children or children incapable of self-support because of mental or physical defect, regardless of age;
   3. Parents dependent upon the teacher.

Sec. 5. Objectives. – To ensure the availability, accessibility and affordability of quality health care, the Philippine Teachers’ Hospital shall:

   a) Provide comprehensive health care services from all qualified beneficiaries and their legal dependents;
   b) Complement the existing package of services under the National Health Insurance Program so as to include preventive, diagnostic, curative and rehabilitative programs;
   c) Conduct medical examination to ensure the physical and mental capability of all teacher applicants;
   d) Effectively monitor the condition of patients; and
   e) To generate relevant information or data in aid of policy formulation.

Sec. 6. Governing Board. – The Philippine Teachers’ Hospital shall govern by the Board of Directors composed of the following:

   a) The Secretary of the Department of Education as ex-officio Chairman;
   b) The Secretary of the Department of Health as ex-officio Vice Chairman;
d) The Secretary of the Department of Social Welfare and Development as *ex-officio* member;

e) Four (4) representatives from the teachers sector: one (1) from the National Capital Region, one (1) from Luzon, one (1) from Visayas, and one (1) from Mindanao as Members, who shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines from a list of nominees recommended by the Chairperson in consultation with the Party-List representing the teacher's sector. Each shall serve for a term of three (3) years without reappointment.

Sec. 7. *Powers and Responsibilities of the Board.* – The Board of Directors of the Philippine Teachers' Hospital shall have the following powers and responsibilities:

a) To formulate and implement measures and programs to attain the objectives and purposes as enunciated in Section 5 of this Act;

b) To organize the structure of the Philippine Teachers’ Hospital in accordance with the staffing pattern prepared by it in coordination with the Department of Health (DOH) and the Civil Service Commission (CSC), and approved by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM);

c) To prescribe the duties and fix the compensation subject to the provision of Republic Act No. 6758, as amended, or the “Compensation and Position Classification Act of 1989” and other relevant laws;

d) To enter into agreements and contracts in furtherance of its establishment, maintenance, operations, and objectives;

e) To receive donations, contributions, bequests, subsidies or financial aid;

f) To issue rules and regulations to carry out the objectives and purposes of this Act; and

g) To perform such other duties and functions as may be provided by law.

Sec. 8. *Meetings and Quorum.* – The Board shall meet at least once a month or as often as may be necessary at the office of the Philippine Teachers' Hospital. Special meeting shall be governed at the call of the Chairman or by a majority of the members of the Board. Presence of majority of the members of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

Sec. 9. *Allowances and per diems.* – The members of the Board shall receive a per diem for every meeting actually attended subject to the pertinent budgetary law, rules and regulations on compensation, honoraria and allowances.
Sec. 10. **Implementing Rules and Regulations.** — The Board shall adopt rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act within ninety (90) days from the date of its effectivity.

Sec. 11. **Appropriations.** — The Secretary of Health shall immediately include on the Department's program the implementation of this Act. The necessary funding to carry out the provisions of this Act, for its operation, and maintenance shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

Sec. 12. **Tax Exemption.** — All donations, contributions, bequests, subsidies or financial aids to the Philippine Teachers' Hospital shall be exempt from payment of taxes under the National Internal Revenue Code and the Local Government Code.

Sec. 13. **Annual Report.** — The Philippine Teachers' Hospital shall render to the President of the Republic of the Philippines and to each House of Congress an annual operational and financial report within thirty (30) days from the day of regular session of Congress the next calendar year.

Sec. 14. **Separability Clause.** — If any provision or portion of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not thereby affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Sec. 15. **Repealing Clause.** — All laws, decrees, executive orders, ordinances, rules, regulations, and other issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with any provision of this Act, are hereby repealed, amended, and/or modified accordingly.

Sec. 16. **Effectivity.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,