Established in 1979, the Philippine Children’s Medical Center (PCMC) is the premier pediatric center of the country providing outstanding medical care to Filipino children for more than 40 years. PCMC is a Level IV training hospital that is administratively attached to the Department of Health housing the most comprehensive pediatric rehabilitation facility and the most extensive pediatric multi-specialty for inpatients, as well as for clinic service to out-patients and referrals.

Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall protect the right of the people and instill health consciousness among them. Moreover, it is State policy to ensure that communities have access to quality and accessible healthcare. Clearly, health service is among the most essential basic services that is urgently and frequently needed by all.

As the PCMC continues to provide quality health service for over 4 decades to young Filipinos, it is only proper that the hospital be given support through a legislation that would allow the institution to construct satellite branches in various parts of the country and to allow the accommodation individuals over 18 years old for the benefit of even more Filipinos.

Given the abovementioned circumstances, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

HON. KRISTINE ALEXIE B. TUTOR
AN ACT
AMENDING SECTIONS 3 AND 4 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREES NO. 1631, SERIES OF 1979 OR THE ACT CREATING THE LUNGSOD NG KABATAAN AS AMENDED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 893, SERIES OF 1983

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

SECTION 1. Section 3(h) of Presidential Decree (P.D.) No. 1631, s. 1979, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 3. Purposes and objectives. The purposes and objectives of the Lungsod ng Kabataan are:

(a) X x x

X x x

(h) To extend pediatric services to the general public, to help prevent, relieve or alleviate the afflictions and maladies of children and youth specially the poor and less fortunate in life, without regard to race, creed, color, or political belief: PROVIDED, THAT THE HOSPITAL MAY ALSO ACCOMODATE INDIVIDUALS ABOVE 18 YEARS OLD WHEN EXIGENCE DEMANDS."

SEC. 2. Section 4(a) of Presidential Decree (P.D.) No. 1631, s. 1979, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 4. Powers. For the attainment and/or furtherance of the above purposes and objectives, the Lungsod ng Kabataan as a body corporate, acting through its
Board of Trustees shall have all the powers pertaining to a juridical person, and is therefore authorized, among other things:

(a) To acquire and hold in any manner property of whatever nature or description, and to dispose of such property under any mode of encumbrance or conveyance, INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF SATELLITE BRANCHES;

SEC. 3. Separability Clause. – If any portion or provision of this Act is subsequently declared invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 4. Repealing Clause. – All other laws, acts, presidential decrees, executive orders, presidential proclamations, issuances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are contrary to or inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,