Committed by the Committee on Health and the Committee on Appropriations on ____________.

Re: House Bill No. 831

Recommending its approval with amendments in consolidation with House Bill No. 2244

Sponsors: Representatives Angelina "Helen" D.L. Tan, M.D., Gabriel H. Bordado, Jr., Luis Raymund "LRay" F. Villafuerte, Jr. and Isidro T. Ungab

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Health and the Committee on Appropriations to which were referred House Bill No. 831, introduced by Reps. Gabriel H. Bordado, Jr., entitled:

AN ACT
INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF BICOL MEDICAL CENTER FROM FIVE HUNDRED (500) BEDS TO ONE THOUSAND (1000) BEDS, UPGRADING ITS SERVICE FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS MEDICAL WORKFORCE COMPLEMENT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8053, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

and House Bill No. 2244 introduced by Rep. Luis Raymund "LRay" F. Villafuerte, Jr., entitled:

AN ACT
TO MODERNIZE THE FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT AND MANPOWER COMPLEMENT OF THE BICOL MEDICAL CENTER (BMC) IN NAGA CITY, PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

have considered the same and recommend the approval of House Bill No. 831, in consolidation with House Bill No. 2244 with the following amendments:

1) In Section 1. Line 1, after the word "Center", insert the phrase, "in Naga City, Province of Camarines Sur."

2) Amend the Title to read as follows:
"AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE BICOL MEDICAL CENTER IN NAGA CITY, PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR FROM FIVE HUNDRED (500) BEDS TO ONE THOUSAND (1000) BEDS, UPGRADING ITS SERVICE FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS MEDICAL WORKFORCE COMPLEMENT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8053, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

with Reps. Gabriel H. Bordado, Jr. and Luis Raymund "LRay" F. Villafuerte, Jr. as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

HON. ISIDRO T. UNGAB
Chairperson
Committee on Appropriations

HON. ANGELINA "Helen" D.L. TAN, M.D.
Chairperson
Committee on Health

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
House of Representatives
Quezon City

"AN ACT
INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE BICOL MEDICAL CENTER IN NAGA CITY, PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR FROM FIVE HUNDRED (500) BEDS TO ONE THOUSAND (1000) BEDS, UPGRADING ITS SERVICE FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS MEDICAL WORKFORCE COMPLEMENT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8053, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

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

Section 1. The authorized bed capacity of the Bicol Medical Center in Naga City, Province of Camarines Sur (BMC) is hereby increased from five hundred (500) beds to one thousand (1000) beds. The Secretary of Health shall implement the increase in bed capacity of the BMC consistent with the five (5) year development plan of the hospital.

Sec. 2. The existing hospital facilities and professional health care services of the BMC are also hereby upgraded and increased to conform with and be commensurate to the bed capacity increase as provided for in Section 1 hereof.

Sec. 3. Upon consultation with the management of the BMC, the Secretary of Health shall, in coordination with the Secretary of Budget and Management and the Chairperson of the Civil Service Commission, determine the additional plantilla positions to be created and filled up in the workforce of the BMC.
Sec. 4. The Secretary of Health shall immediately include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Sec. 5. Republic Act No. 8053, otherwise known as "An Act Converting the Bicol Regional Training and Teaching Hospital into Bicol Medical Center, Defining its Functions. Responsibilities, Powers and Authority, and Appropriating Funds Therefor" is hereby amended accordingly. All laws, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Sec. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,
Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 831


EXPLANATORY NOTES

Previously known as the Bicol Regional Training and Teaching Hospital (BRTTH), the Bicol Medical Center (BMC) in Naga City serves patients principally coming from the 6 provinces and 7 cities of the Bicol Region aside from conducting teaching/training and research programs. Pursuant to Republic Act No. 8053, the BMC has been authorized to operate on a 300 - bed capacity, excluding the Don Susano V. Rodriguez Memorial Mental Hospital located in Cadya, Pili, Camarines Sur, which has a 200 - bed capacity and which is likewise under its jurisdiction.

The BMC actually traces its roots to a 25 - bed provincial hospital established in 1933 in a rented Spanish-style edifice in Naga City. Due to inadequate facilities, however, the provincial hospital folded up in 1936. Four years later, the then Commonwealth government started building what would be the precursor of the present-day hospital straddling an area of, more or less, 15 hectares.

At this stage, the BMC gallantly tries to live up to its standing as the premier government hospital in a region rich in natural resources but ironically saddled by grinding poverty. Gallantry, though, has its limits especially in the context of the inadequacies hounding the medical center a couple of decades after its inception. Just imagine that the BMC has to contend with an average of 850 patients a day -- far exceeding its 500-bed capacity.

This bill, therefore, calls for an increase in the bed capacity of BMC to 1000; a corresponding upgrade in its service facilities and professional health care; and the allocation of sufficient funding to effect such overdue reforms, as it were.

Given the urgency of the bill, its immediate passage is earnestly sought.

GABRIEL H. BORDADO JR.
Republic of the Philippines

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 831

Introduced by REP. GABRIEL H. BORDADO, JR.

AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF BICOL MEDICAL CENTER FROM FIVE HUNDRED (500) BEDS TO ONE THOUSAND (1000) BEDS, UPGRADING ITS SERVICE FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS MEDICAL WORKFORCE COMPLEMENT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8053, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. The authorized bed capacity of the Bicol Medical Center (BMC) is hereby increased from five hundred (500) beds to one thousand (1000) beds. The Secretary of Health shall implement the increase in bed capacity of the BMC consistent with the five (5)-year development plan of the hospital.

SEC. 2. The existing hospital facilities and professional health care services of the BMC are also hereby upgraded and increased to conform with and be commensurate to the bed capacity increase as provided under Section 1 hereof.

SEC. 3. Upon consultation with the management of the BMC, the Secretary of Health shall, in coordination with the Secretary of Budget and Management and the Chairperson of the Civil Service Commission, determine the additional plantilla positions to be created and filled up in the workforce of BMC.
SEC. 4. The Secretary of Health shall immediately include in the Department's programs the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 5. Republic Act 8053, otherwise known as "An Act Converting the Bicol Regional Training and Teaching Hospital into Bicol Medical Center, Defining its Functions, Responsibilities, Powers and Authority, and Appropriating Funds Therefor" is hereby amended accordingly. All laws, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modifies accordingly.

SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect within fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,