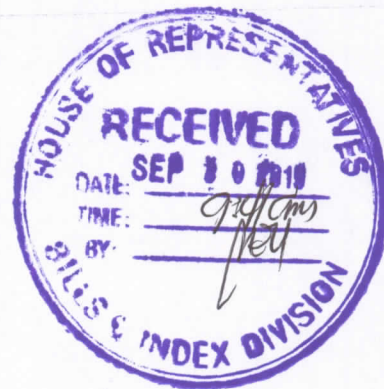


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

House Bill No. 4870

EXPLANATORY NOTE


Article XVI Section 7 of the 1987 Constitution states:

Section 7. The State shall provide immediate and adequate care, benefits, and other forms of assistance to war veterans and veterans of military campaigns, their surviving spouses and orphans.

At present, the country only has one hospital dedicated to provide quality hospitalization, medical care and treatment to Filipino veterans. The Veterans Memorial Medical Center in Quezon City was mandated to be the primary medical facility for the hospitalization and medical care of veterans and their dependents.

There are thousands of veterans all over the country and it would be inconvenient for our veterans to travel all the way to Quezon City for their medical needs. We need to provide them quality and accessible health care. Thus, the need to have additional Veterans Memorial Medical Centers in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this measure is earnestly requested.

  
RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS )  
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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*Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez*

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House Bill No. 4870

AN ACT

ESTABLISHING VETERANS MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTERS IN LUZON, VISAYAS  
AND MINDANAO

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

**SECTION 1.** The establishment of one (1) Veterans Memorial Medical Centers each for Luzon (outside Metro Manila), Visayas and in Cagayan de Oro City for Mindanao, with the minimum capacity of twenty-five (25) hospital beds each under the supervision of the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office (PVAO) is hereby mandated.

**SEC. 2.** The Secretary of National Defense and/or his duly authorized representative, in consultation and coordination with the concerned officials of the Department of Interior and Local Government, shall formulate and promulgate the implementing guidelines, rules and regulations necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.

**SEC. 3.** The Secretary of Defense shall immediately include in the Department's programs the operationalization of the new Veterans Memorial Medical Centers in Luzon (outside Metro Manila), Visayas, and Cagayan de Oro City in Mindanao, the funding of which shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

**SEC. 4.** For the purposes of this Act, the term "operationalization" shall include the acquisition of the land on which the hospitals will be established, the construction of the building and other complementary infrastructures, facilities and hospital equipment, as well as the costs for maintenance and personal services for the said facilities.

**SEC. 5.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,