

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**18<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 7735**



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Introduced by Representative **RODRIGO A. ABELLANOSA**

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### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Inspired by UNESCO's proclamation in 1979 of the International Year of the Child, declaring that "mankind owes to the child the best it has to give," the Philippine Children's Medical Center was created in the same year through Presidential Decree No. 1631, originally under the name Lungsod ng Kabataan.

A wonderland for children, the hospital welcomes children with colorful, educational, cultural, and historical murals lining its corridors. Rooms are designed to provide a soothing and comfortable, as well as informative, educational, and enjoyable experience.

To date, the PCMC offers a wide range of patient care services as it continues to work towards its vision of becoming the premier Pediatric Center of the country. Its expert service and infrastructure capabilities showcase the largest ICU for children in the country, including the biggest neonatal intensive care unit [NICU] that is integral to the Perinatal Care and Neonatology Center. It's Child Neurology and Neurosurgery Service Program, inclusive of a neurodevelopment center, is fully equipped with up-to-date services. It also has 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. Among these are the Cancer and Hematology Center; Adolescent Center (Teen Republic); Pediatric Lung, Heart, Kidney and Liver Center; Pediatric Critical Care Center, and; the Clinical

Centers for General Pediatric Services and Surgical & Allied Medical Services, respectively.

The PCMC sits at the heart of Quezon City, in an area accessible to children in need of medical attention coming from different areas of the Greater Manila Area. Sadly, however, those who reside farther south, such as Cebu, have very limited access to it considering that we are an archipelagic state and distance and transportation costs are very restrictive. Further, PCMC currently only has a 212-bed capacity which definitely will be unable to serve a significant proportion of the country's approximately 33 million youth.

This bill, therefore seeks to establish the Philippine Children's Medical Center for Cebu (PCMC Cebu), in an effort to extend the PCMC's reach and allow our children from the south access to the same state-of-the-art services and expertise offered by the latter without the burden of additional transportation costs to their parents.

In view of the foregoing, passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



**RODRIGO A. ABELLANOSA**

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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE CHILDREN'S MEDICAL**  
**CENTER FOR CEBU AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**SECTION 1.** *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the state to protect and promote the right to health of its people. Towards this end, it is the duty of the state to ensure the accessibility of medical services and the availability of specialized healthcare to Filipino children.

**Sec. 2.** *Philippine Children's Medical Center for Cebu.* – There shall be established, under the supervision of the Department of Health, a Philippine Children's Medical Center in Cebu City to be known as the Philippine Children's Medical Center for Cebu, subject to the provisions of Presidential Decree No. 1631.

The PCMC Cebu shall be a constituent specialty hospital of the Philippine Children's Medical Center and shall be administered by its existing Board of Trustees.

The PCMC Cebu shall have a bed capacity of at least one hundred fifty (150).

**Sec. 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – The Secretary of Health, in consultation with the Philippine Children’s Medical Center Board of Trustees, shall formulate and promulgate the rules and regulations to carry out the implementation of this Act.

**Sec. 4. *Appropriations.*** – The amount of Two Billion Pesos (Php2,000,000,000) is hereby appropriated for the establishment, initial operatin, and maintenance of the PCMC Cebu. Thereafter, such amounts as may be necessary for its continued operation and maintenance shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

**Sec. 5. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules, and regulations inconsistent with any provision of this Act shall be deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

**Sec. 13. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved.*