

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6857



Introduced by: **REP. PROSPERO A. PICHAY, JR.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 15 of the Constitution provides that the state shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them. In line with this, the state has the duty to provide and deliver accessible health services for the people.


Consistent with the wisdom of said constitutional provision, it is hereby proposed that the government should establish an Apex Hospital in every region in the Philippines. The unfortunate reality at present is that medical services are inequitable because specialty hospitals are geographically situated in Metro Manila. Patients in distant regions have to endure the costly travel and accommodation to seek their needed treatment.

Regional Hospitals could not address all the needs of patients with specific organ disease or perform organ transplant. They have to refer the patient to a Metro Manila-based hospital. This translates to additional burden of time and money for the patient. While a number of rural residents are living below average if not in poverty, they often chose not to be treated because of financial constraints.

Apex Hospitals will address the medical intervention requirements of patients with a particular organ or organs conditions. Specialty doctors will be available as well as machineries and equipment.

The immediate passage of this bill is a fulfillment of the government's effort to provide medical care that is comprehensive and easily accessible for the people.

In view thereof, the passage of this measure is earnestly sought.



PROSPERO A. PICHAY, JR.

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING AN APEX HOSPITAL WITH 500 - 1000 BED CAPACITY IN
EVERY REGION IN THE PHILIPPINES AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREOF

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

SECTION 1. *Title* – This Act shall be known as the “Apex Hospitals Act of 2020.”

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy* - It is the policy of the state to protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them, provide and deliver accessible health services for the people.

SECTION 3. *Definition of Apex Hospital* – An Apex Hospital is an end-referral hospital that has full complement of medical services as determined by the Department of Health (DOH).

SECTION 4. *Establishment of Apex Hospitals* - The government shall establish, construct, equip, operate, maintain, upgrade and govern in every region of the Philippines an Apex Hospital.

SECTION 5. *Objectives* – Each Apex Hospital shall be capable of providing medical attention to the following:

- a) Renal disease treatment, dialysis and kidney transplant
- b) Cardiovascular treatment, surgery, implantation and transplant
- c) Musculoskeletal disorders, bone fractures, implantation and treatment of other bone and muscle injuries
- d) Respiratory ailment
- e) Trauma and Rehabilitation
- f) Pediatric diseases treatment
- g) Neurosurgery
- h) Cancer treatment
- i) Infectious diseases
- j) Ophthalmic care

- k) Dermatology
- l) Adult and Pediatric neurology and neurosurgery
- m) Wellness

SECTION 6. *Appropriation* - Funds shall be appropriated as may be necessary for the establishment of Apex Hospitals in all regions of the Philippines to enable its initial operations and to implement the provisions of this Act.

Appropriations needed for the continued operations of the Apex Hospitals shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act (GAA).

SECTION 7. *Implementation* - The Department of Health and other concerned agencies shall formulate and promulgate the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) necessary to establish the purposes of this Act;

SECTION 8. *Separability Clause* - If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 9. *Effectivity* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,