

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Eighteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6826



Introduced by Representative Henry S. Oaminal

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to provide specialized medical centers for health care services to children in Visayas and Mindanao by establishing the Philippine Children's Medical Center (PCMC) in Iloilo City, PCMC in Cebu City, PCMC in Davao City and PCMC in Ozamiz City as constituent units of PCMC in Quezon City.

The PCMC, created under Presidential Decree No. 1631 on August 10, 1979, was established in Quezon City to primarily benefit the Filipino children, enhance the research in pediatric diseases, training of medical and technical personnel and provide specialized medical services for the prevention and treatment of children's diseases.

Unfortunately, PCMC's present location is not accessible to many children from Visayas and Mindanao. Patients coming from these regions would endure a long journey to Luzon which would further compound their woes and financial burdens. As not all parents can afford to bring their children to PCMC in Quezon City, establishing constituent units of PCMC in Western Visayas, Central Visayas, Southeastern Mindanao and Northern Mindanao will ensure that Filipino infants and children throughout the country will be provided with adequate government-sponsored medical care. Iloilo City, Cebu City, Davao City and Ozamis City are ideal geographical locations to establish PCMCs in Visayas and Mindanao because of its modern infrastructures and facilities essential to the operations of the children medical centers.

Hence, this bill aims to establish PCMC in Western Visayas, Central Visayas, Southeastern Mindanao and Northern Mindanao in compliance with Section 15, Article II; Section 11, Article XIII; and Paragraph 2, Section 3 of Article XV of the 1987 Constitution on the protection and promotion of the right to health of the people, protection of children's right to proper care, and adoption of integrated and comprehensive approach to health development of children.

In view of the foregoing reasons, the immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



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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 the people, especially the children, including proper care and nutrition and to adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development. Towards this end, the State shall ensure the accessibility of medical services and the availability of specialized health care to children in the Visayas and Mindanao regions.

SEC. 2. *Philippine Children's Medical Center for Visayas and Mindanao.* – There shall be established, under the supervision of the Department of Health, a Philippine Children's Medical Center in Iloilo City, a Philippine Children's Medical Center in Cebu City, a Philippine

1 Children's Medical Center in Davao City, and a Philippine Children's
2 Medical Center in Ozamis City to be known as Philippine Children's
3 Medical Center for Western Visayas, Philippine Children's Medical Center
4 for Central Visayas, Philippine Children's Medical Center for Southeastern
5 Mindanao, and Philippine Children's Medical Center for Northern
6 Mindanao, hereinafter referred to as PCMC-Western Visayas, PCMC-
7 Central Visayas, PCMC-Southeastern Mindanao, and PCMC-Northern
8 Mindanao, respectively. All the PCMCs in Visayas and Mindanao regions
9 shall be constituent specialty hospitals of the Philippine Children's
10 Medical Center and shall be administered by its existing Board of Trustees
11 of the Philippine Children's Medical Center, hereinafter referred to as the
12 Board.

13 The PCMC – Western Visayas, PCMC – Central Visayas, PCMC –
14 Southeastern Mindanao, and PCMC – Northern Mindanao shall have a bed
15 capacity of five hundred (500) each.

16 SEC. 3. **Medical Director.** – The PCMC – Western Visayas, PCMC
17 – Central Visayas, PCMC – Southeastern Mindanao, and PCMC– Northern
18 Mindanao shall each be headed by a Medical Director who shall be
19 appointed by the President of the Philippines upon the recommendation of
20 the Board.

21 The Medical Director shall exercise the following powers and
22 functions:

1 (a) Execute the policies, guidelines and programs approved by
2 the Board, and be responsible for the efficient discharge of
3 management and operational functions;

4 (b) Submit for the consideration and approval of the Board
5 proposed measures, policies, guidelines and programs as may be
6 deemed necessary or proper for the effective implementation of the
7 purposes and objectives of this Act;

8 (c) Direct and supervise the management, operation and
9 administration of the PCMC – Western Visayas, PCMC – Central
10 Visayas, PCMC – Southeastern Mindanao, and PCMC – Northern
11 Mindanao, and may delegate this power and any or some of his
12 administrative responsibilities and duties to the other officers of the
13 hospitals;

14 (d) Execute, on behalf of the Board, all contracts and agreements
15 which the latter may enter into, and to execute, accomplish and
16 deliver any and all documents relative to such contacts and
17 agreements;

18 (e) Represent the PCMC – Western Visayas, PCMC – Central
19 Visayas, PCMC – Southeastern Mindanao, and PCMC – Northern
20 Mindanao, on behalf of the Board, in all dealings with other offices,
21 agencies and instrumentalities of the government, and all other

persons or entities, whether domestic or foreign and whether government or private;

(f) Recommend to the Board the appointment, promotion, transfer, dismissal, and suspension of the officers and employees of the hospitals; and

(g) Exercise such other powers and perform such duties as may be vested or reposed by the Board.

SEC. 4. ***Organizational Structure and Staffing Pattern.*** – The

Board shall determine the organizational structure and staffing pattern of the PCMC – Western Visayas, PCMC – Central Visayas, PCMC – Southeastern Mindanao, and PCMC – Northern Mindanao subject to the evaluation by the Civil Service Commission and of the Organization, Position Classification and Compensation Bureau of the Department of Budget and Management. The Board may reorganize the structure, modify the staffing pattern and create or abolish divisions, sections or units in the PCMC – Western Visayas, PCMC – Central Visayas, PCMC – Southeastern Mindanao, and PCMC – Northern Mindanao.

SEC. 5. ***Program for Indigents.*** – The Board shall ensure that the

PCMC – Western Visayas, PCMC – Central Visayas, PCMC – Southeastern Mindanao, and PCMC – Northern Mindanao shall adopt and enforce a program for indigents. The number of beds allocated for indigent

1 patients shall not be less than forty percent (40%) of the total number of
2 hospital beds.

3 **SEC. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within sixty (60)
4 days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Health, in
5 consultation with the Board of Trustees of the Philippine Children's
6 Medical Center, shall formulate and promulgate, the rules and regulations
7 to carry out the purposes of this Act.

8 **SEC. 7. *Appropriations.*** – The amount of Ten billion pesos
9 (P10,000,000,000.00) out of the National Treasury not otherwise
10 appropriated is hereby appropriated for the establishment, initial operation
11 and maintenance of the PCMC – Western Visayas, PCMC – Central
12 Visayas, PCMC – Southeastern Mindanao and PCMC – Northern
13 Mindanao. Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary for the continued
14 operation and maintenance of the PCMC – Western Visayas, PCMC –
15 Central Visayas, PCMC – Southeastern Mindanao, and PCMC –Northern
16 Mindanao shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

17 **SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, orders,
18 proclamations, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are
19 inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified
20 accordingly.

1 SEC. 9. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
2 days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of
3 general circulation.

4 Approved,