

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. _____



Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE HORACIO P. SUANSING, JR.

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE BAGUMBAYAN DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF
BAGUMBAYAN, 2ND DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF SULTAN KUDARAT AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 15, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution (the "Constitution") provides as a state policy that:


"The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them."

Further, Section 11, Article XIII of the Constitution states as a national health policy that:

"The State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the underprivileged sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children. The State shall endeavor to provide free medical care to paupers."

The 2nd District of the province of Sultan Kudarat (the "District") lacks sufficient facility to provide the Constitutional mandates of social justice for the underprivileged sick. The District is composed of 6 municipalities with a total population of 408,389. However, only 3 government hospitals are found in the District – 3 municipal hospitals in Kalamansig, Lebak and Senator Ninoy Aquino. At present, there is no operational district hospital in the District. A district hospital (KALEPA District Hospital) is being constructed in Lebak, but it is only intended to cater to 3 municipalities: Kalamansig, Lebak and Palimbang. Lebak is 3 to 5 hours away from Bagumbayan, Esperanza and Senator Ninoy Aquino, which makes the KALEPA District Hospital inaccessible to constituents from the latter 3 municipalities. Furthermore, only the municipal hospital in Senator Ninoy Aquino, which has a bed capacity of 10, is the government hospital accessible to the approximately 180,000 population of Bagumbayan, Esperanza and Senator Ninoy Aquino. The Department of Health recommends a ratio of at least 1 hospital bed for every 1,000 population (this ratio also follows the new indicator of the World Health Organization). As such, the present facilities of the District clearly cannot adequately provide the health needs of the constituents. The need for affordable quality government health care facilities is further magnified by the fact that approximately 45% of all barangays in the District (49% of barangays in Bagumbayan, Esperanza and Senator Ninoy Aquino) have been identified as geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas (GIDA). Furthermore, Sultan Kudarat has been identified as one of the 20 provinces in the Philippines with the highest poverty incidence at 56.2% and 5 of the 6 municipalities in the District (including Bagumbayan, Esperanza and Senator Ninoy Aquino) have been identified as one of the poorest in Region XII. Thus, this proposed Bill will go a long way in providing the people of Sultan Kudarat, especially the indigent, access to affordable quality health care.

In view thereof, the government must expend efforts to address the existing and impending shortage of health care facilities. Immediate approval of this Bill is earnestly sought.


HORACIO P. SUANSING, JR.
2nd District, Sultan Kudarat

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **3725**

Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE HORACIO P. SUANSING, JR.

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE BAGUMBAYAN DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF
BAGUMBAYAN, 2ND DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF SULTAN KUDARAT AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established, under the direct supervision of the Provincial Government of Sultan Kudarat, a twenty-five (25) bed capacity district hospital in the Municipality of Bagumbayan, 2nd District of the Province of Sultan Kudarat, to be known as the Bagumbayan District Hospital.

SECTION 2. The amount necessary for the effective implementation of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act in the year following its enactment into law. Thereafter, the Secretary of Health shall include in the Department's subsidy program, budgetary support for the continuing operations of the hospital.

SECTION 3. The Secretary of Health, in coordination with the concerned local government officials, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,