

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

Eighteenth Congress
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **5260**



Introduced by **Rep. ERICO ARISTOTLE C. AUMENTADO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to amend Presidential Decree No. 673 which created the Philippine Heart Center in Asia by placing branches of Philippine Heart Center hospital facilities including personnel in the Visayas particularly to be located in Bohol and in Mindanao particularly in Davao City to improve the much needed medical care and services across and around the country. By establishing the Visayas and Mindanao hospital facilities of the Philippine Heart Center in the entire country, the delivery of medical care and services will become closer to the Filipino people as the range will cover around and across the country not limiting to the National Capital Region expanding the services being delivered by the Philippine Heart Center to the rest of the islands as will definitely give hope to every Filipinos whenever it is situated. Transportation, medical supplies and equipment will not be an issue anymore if established, because it will be available within and across the country.

The Philippine Heart Center is a specialty hospital and research center with the most modern facilities and state of the art equipment for heart and related diseases in the country. It has gained the reputation as one of the best Congenital Heart Surgery Center not only in the Philippines but in the ASEAN Region as well. In this regard, this important comprehensive health care must not only be found in one location but must be located in at least three (3) hospital facilities nationwide so as to give the Filipinos the necessary health care it deserves. Presently, the population of the Filipino people is one hundred billion (107) billion and still increasing.

Thus, the government must ensure that the Filipinos should be given specialty hospitals (level 3) and that this should be widely distributed geographically throughout and across the country being an archipelagic state instead of concentrating it in the National Capital Region.

To support this proposal, the 1987 Philippine Constitution particularly Section 15, Art. II and Sec. 11, Art. XIII provides that "the State protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them" and that "the State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavour 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 under-privileged, sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children. The State shall endeavour to provide free medical care to paupers."

Accordingly, it is the interest of the Filipino people to ensure that the problems besetting the present system of a central delivery of medical and health services of the Philippine Heart Center in the National Capital Region should be addressed. By establishing Philippine Heart Center hospital facilities in the Visayas and Mindanao, it will address the needs of the less fortunate inhabitants on the burden of travelling to the National Capital Region as well as the expenses that might be defrayed from it.

Hence, immediate passage of this bill is therefore, earnestly sought.



ERICO ARISTOTLE C. AUMENTADO
Representative, 2nd District of Bohol

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING PHILIPPINE HEART CENTERS IN BOHOL FOR VISAYAS AND
DAVAO CITY FOR MINDANAO AMENDING SECTIONS 1 AND 8 OF
PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 673, ENTITLED: AN ACT CREATING THE
PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER FOR ASIA, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Section 1 of Presidential Decree No. 673, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 1. **Creation of the Philippine Heart Center; Board of Trustees.** There is hereby created a trust, for the benefit primarily of the Filipino people, under the name and style of "Philippine Heart Center for Asia" hereinafter referred to as the Philippine Heart Center.

- a. The Philippine Heart Center **SHALL ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN THREE (3) HOSPITAL FACILITIES IN THE PHILIPPINES, NAMELY: ONE (1) FOR LUZON WHICH SHALL BE LOCATED IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION, ONE FOR VISAYAS LOCATED IN BOHOL, AND ONE FOR MINDANAO LOCATED IN DAVAO CITY.**
- b. The Philippine Heart Center shall be administered by a Board of Trustees, composed of seven (7) members, to be appointed by the President of the Philippines **WHO SHALL BE THE GOVERNING BOARD OF ALL THE HOSPITAL FACILITIES OF THE PHILIPPINE HEART CENTERS WHEREVER THEY ARE SITUATED.**

- c. The **EXECUTIVE** DIRECTOR shall be appointed by the President of the Republic upon the recommendation of the Board of Trustees.
- d. **ALL HOSPITAL FACILITIES OF THE PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER SHALL BE HEADED BY HOSPITAL DIRECTORS APPOINTED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR A PERIOD OF SIX (6) YEARS ON THE BASIS OF SEARCH PROCESS TO BE DETERMINED BY THE BOARD. THE HOSPITAL DIRECTORS SHALL BE UNDER THE DIRECT SUPERVISION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.**

The six appointive members of the Board of Trustees shall serve without compensation for a period of four (4) years and until their successors shall have been appointed and qualified. Any vacancy in the Board shall be filled by appointment by the President of the Philippines, and the appointee shall serve for the unexpired term. The Board of Trustees of the Philippine Heart Center shall elect a Chairman from among themselves, who shall be presiding officer of the Board of Trustees.

The **EXECUTIVE** Director of the Philippine Heart Center shall serve as Vice-Chairman of the Board. The **EXECUTIVE** Director shall act as the chief executive officer of the Philippine Heart Center, with authority, among others, to appoint, remove, and fix the compensation of the personnel thereof, subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees.

Sec. 2. Section 8 of Presidential Decree No. 673 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 8. Government Contribution. The amount of P10,000,000.00 is hereby appropriated as contributions of the National Government for the initial operations and maintenance of the Philippine Heart Center. **THE SUM AMOUNT OF ONE BILLION (P1,000,000,000.00) PESOS SHALL BE APPROPRIATED FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF ALL THE HOSPITAL FACILITIES OF THE PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER, INCLUDING THE LAND ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION, AND THE ACQUISITION OF HOSPITAL EQUIPMENTS, FURNITURES, FIXTURES, AND PERSONNEL SERVICES.** Thereafter, the necessary amount to support the continued operation and maintenance of the Philippine Heart Center shall be appropriated **IN THE ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR THE CONTINUED IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT** and released, subject to the approval of the President.

Sec. 3. - Separability Clause. – If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Sec. 4. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations or portions thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Sec. 5. Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,