

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**Eighteenth Congress**  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6963



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**Introduced by HON. MA. LOURDES T. ARROYO**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to re-nationalize IGNACIO L. ARROYO SR. MEMORIAL DISTRICT HOSPITAL (ILASMDH) situated in the Municipality of Isabela, Negros Occidental from the local government unit (LGU) to the national government. This is in pursuant to the Constitutional mandate of the State to protect and promote the right to health of every Filipino and to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all people at an affordable cost.

ILASMDH is a twenty-five (25) bed infirmary health facility situated in the Municipality of Isabela in Negros Occidental. Given its strategic location, ILASMDH provide health care services catering not only the adjacent municipalities in the Fifth District of Negros Occidental but also to certain parts of Negros Oriental.

ILASMDH started as a semi-private Puericulture Center functioning mainly as Maternity and Children's Clinic in the 1950s. In July 1, 1969, it leveled up into a 25-bed primary level hospital under the name of Isabela District Hospital covered by the national government and subsequently became a secondary level district hospital in the year 1989.

The hospital was then devolved to the Provincial government of Negros Occidental in 1993 upon the enactment of the Local Government Code to decentralize essential public services such as health and social services. It was in the year 2004 when the hospital was named after the late Ignacio L. Arroyo Sr. pursuant to *Resolution No. 0596 (series of 2004)* approving the Deed of Donation of the new hospital building which was entered into by and between the Province of Negros Occidental and Municipality of Isabela and was approved by the Department of Health on July 2, 2007.

Since the decentralization of the health services, ILASMDH has become dependent on the share of the local government units from the forty percent (40%) internal revenue allotment from the national government. It is also worthy to note that the internal revenue allocation of the LGUs are still apportioned to different priority programs of the LGU.

At present, the hospital has only three (3) doctors requiring each doctor to go on a 24-hour duties nine times a month. Unfortunately, it has been downgraded from Level 1 to

Infirmity level and continuous to exceed its standard bed capacity due to the volume of patients. The hospital has been struggling to request for additional doctors and medical staff as well as the upgrade of its facilities due to the insufficient budget allocation of the LGU.

ILASMDH has been catering health services mostly to indigent patients. In 2016, it served 3,262 indigent patients and 1,183 of them were treated for the period January to June 2019. At present, the hospital's authorized bed capacity and actual hospital bed occupancy rate is mismatched.

Reverting back the Ignacio Lacson Arroyo Sr. Medical District Hospital from the local government unit to the national government will pave the way for the development of the hospital in order to continuously provide effective and efficient health care services.

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

  
**MA. LOURDES T. ARROYO**



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**AN ACT**  
**RE-NATIONALIZING THE IGNACIO LACSON ARROYO SR.**  
**MEMORIAL DISTRICT HOSPITAL LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY**  
**OF ISABELA, NEGROS OCCIDENTAL, PLACING UNDER THE**  
**DIRECT CONTROL, MANAGEMENT, AND SUPERVISION OF THE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,**  
**AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

**SECTION 1. *Re-nationalization of Ignacio Lacson Arroyo Sr. Memorial District Hospital.*** – The Ignacio Lacson Arroyo Sr. Memorial District Hospital (ILASMDH) in the province of Negros Occidental is hereby re-nationalized, increasing its operating fund; upgrading its medical equipment and facilities; and constructing the needed infrastructure under the direct control, management, and supervision of the Department of Health.

**SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.***– It is the declared policy of the State that it shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them. Further, the State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services to all the people at affordable cost.

**SEC. 3. *Objective.***– The objective of this Act is to adopt an integrated and comprehensive quality health services that will cater patients in the five (5) Municipalities and one (1) City in the Fifth District of Negros Occidental as well as its neighboring municipalities.

**SEC. 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulation.***– For the purpose of compliance of the Act, the Department of Health shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

**SEC. 5. *Appropriations.***– The amount necessary for the effective implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations for the organizational

adjustment fund. Thereafter, such amount as may be necessary for its continued operation shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

**SEC. 6. *Separability Clause.***- If any portion or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

**SEC. 7. *Repealing Clause.***- All laws, executive orders, decrees, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 8. *Effectivity.***- This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*