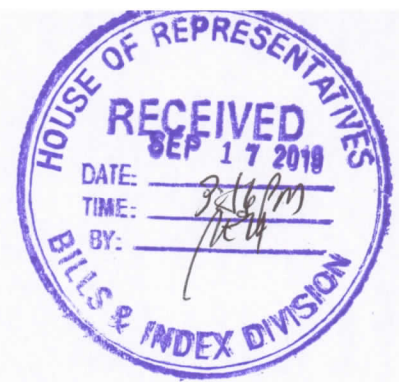


Republic of the Philippines  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City

18<sup>th</sup> Congress  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4646



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Introduced by **HONORABLE DATU ROONIE QUESADA SINSUAT, SR.**

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**AN ACT EXPANDING THE MANDATE OF COTABATO SANITARIUM  
IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SULTAN KUDARAT, 1<sup>ST</sup> CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT,  
PROVINCE OF MAGUINDANAO IN THE BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION  
IN MUSLIM MINDANAO AND  
INCREASING ITS BED CAPACITY TO AT LEAST TWO HUNDRED FIFTY (250)  
AND TO BE KNOWN AS THE  
*SULTAN KUDARAT MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER (SKMMC)*  
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to change the name of COTABATO SANITARIUM, a Department of Health retained hospital facility located in barangay Ungap, Municipality of Sultan Kudarat in the 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District of the Province of Maguindanao in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) to **SULTAN KUDARAT MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER** and increase its bed capacity from twenty five (25) to at least Two Hundred Fifty (250) beds and upgrade its service facilities and professional health care for other related purposes.

Under the current regulations, a government – owned hospital can only increase its bed-capacity through the act of congress. Hence, to ensure that the government hospital continue to provide quality health care services, this bill seeks to increase the bed capacity of the hospital to at least TWO HUNDRED FIFTY (250).

**BACKGROUND OF THE COTABATO SANITARIUM**

The Department of Health (DOH) Regional Office XII administratively runs two hospitals in the Bangsamoro Autonomos Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) Region namely **Cotabato Regional and Medical Center (CRMC)** located in Cotabato City and **Cotabato Sanitarium** located in Sultan Kudarat, all in the 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District of Maguindanao in the BARMM. The Cotabato Regional and Medical Center caters to almost all patients in the entire Central Mindanao area particularly Cotabato City and Maguindanao thus rendering the hospital heavily burdened with even ailments and diseases that can be treated and cured in secondary and primary hospitals.

**Cotabato Sanitarium has been at the forefront of leprosy care since its establishment in 1936.** It was created by a Commonwealth Act but unfortunately its records have never been found due to some events that took place during World War II. It started as a collecting station for leprosy patients before they are transported and transferred in the tiny island of Culion in Palawan. Throughout the years, Cotabato Sanitarium has been performing leprosy care until 2005 when the Department of Health issued Administrative Order. No. 2005-0013 wherein all of the eight (8) existing sanitarium in the Philippines were mandated to provide the following:



1. Make available emergency, out-patient and in-patient treatment/care for the general population in its immediate catchment area;
2. Make available all OPD services to the general population and convert existing wards to accommodate in-patients for general service care;
3. Make available the 4 major Service Departments: Medical, Surgical, OB-GYNE, and Pediatrics and
4. Serve as referral center for the management of leprosy complications, patient and family counseling and community education.

With this, Cotabato Sanitarium has been carrying out its dual function, General patient care and leprosy care. Though the numbers of leprosy cases are decreasing, its new mandate of serving the general population has been steadily increasing through the years. Data shows that Cotabato Sanitarium's in-patient census based on the 4 major services has been steadily increasing. In addition, Emergency cases seen at the Emergency Room (ER) also increased (see attached briefer) as well as OPD consultation.

Cotabato Sanitarium's achievement has also solidified its status as one of the most service-oriented hospitals in the country being awarded as best level 1 hospital in 2013. It is also a Hall of Famer in the Red Orchid Awards and has recently garnered the Diamond Award in the just concluded TB Awards.

Currently, Cotabato Sanitarium is a Level 1 DOH retained facility, ISO 9001-2015 certified, PhilHealth accredited, with an Authorized Bed Capacity (ABC) of twenty-five (25) but with an Implementing Bed Capacity (IBC) of Forty (40). However, its actual bed occupancy is at Eight (80) beds. Aside from the previously mentioned services, it has expanded its services and is now capable of offering basic Cardiology services, Orthopedic Services, Surgical Oncology (Cancer Surgery) and Chemotherapy services, Intensive care Unit services and will be offering Ophthalmology services soon.

Cotabato Sanitarium is located under the Province of Maguindanao which has 36 municipalities. It is specifically under the first (1<sup>st</sup>) Congressional district. According to 2007 Census of Population by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), Maguindanao has total population of 1,273,715 with the Municipality of Sultan Kudarat as the most populous. The Province of Maguindanao has only seven (7) hospitals, excluding Cotabato Sanitarium, with a total bed capacity of 137 or a 1 hospital bed to 6,797 of the population which is way below the ideal ratio of 1 bed: 1000 population. All of these hospitals are all maintained and operated by the Local Government Unit of Maguindanao under the Integrated Provincial Health Office or IPHO.

Cotabato Sanitarium is one of the four (4) DOH retained hospital that is located geographically in the BARMM but is administratively under the direct supervision of Region XII. The others being Sulu Sanitarium under Regional Office IX and Amai Pakpak Medical Center under Regional Office X. Cotabato Sanitarium together with its hansenite patients has long suffered the stigma brought upon the disease known as Leprosy or "Ketong" thus the need to change its name. This change in name together with improvement in services will bring better services in the 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional district of Maguindanao and the entire province of Maguindanao and its neighboring municipalities by reducing maternal and child morbidity and mortality. In addition, the improvement to Cotabato Sanitarium will decongest the heavily burdened Cotabato Regional and Medical Center and thus focus on its mandate which to serve as the end referral of difficult and special cases in the region.



**RATIONALE FOR THE INCREASE IN BED CAPACITY**

Cotabato Sanitarium has been serving the City of Cotabato and the municipalities of Sultan Kudarat, Sultan Mastura and the Iranon Municipalities of Parang, Barira, Buldon, Matanog and some parts of the first district of Lanao del Sur, particularly the municipaplities of Kapatagan and Balabagan. Also included in its catchment areas is the Municipality of Pigcawaya and Libungan, both in the province of North Cotabato.

The last five (5) years, has shown an expontential increase in the number of admission and consultations in the Cotabato Sanitarium(Table 1):

**HOSPITAL STATISTICSFOR 2010 - 2019**

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 as of June 30
Admission	555	675	936	1,303	1,976	376	4,003	4,442	5,245	2,796
OPD	1,919	2,056	2,748	3,274	3,733	6,,312	9,018	9,993	0	6,119

According to the 2015 Philippine Statistics Authority data, the 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District of Maguindanao including Cotabato City, has a total population of 821,475. The Philippine Health Agenda (PHA) and the World Health Organization (WHO) has identified that the ideal hospital beds to population ration is 1:800. With the current situation, the 1<sup>st</sup> District of Maguindanao has a hospital bed to population ration of 1:1,200 where the total hospital beds across all levels is only 600, way below the ideal standards thus needing at least 339 more additional beds.

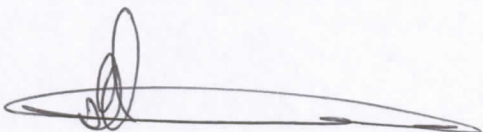
Increasing the bed capacity of Cotabato Sanitarium to at least 250 beds will not only close the gap ration but will also be in compliance with the standard set by the PHA and the WHO in the ideal ratio for bed capacity per population and will also strengthen the delivery of quality health services in this part of the country.

**OR THE CHANGE IN NAME OF COTABATO SANITARIUM HOSPITAL TO  
SULTAN KUDARAT MEMOIAL AND MEDICAL CENTER**

The Cotabato Sanitarium being located in Barangay Ungap, Municipality of Sultan Kudarat, Maguindanano is but proper and appropriate to be renamed to where it is located and to correct the impression or connotation of the word Sanitarium. The hospital’s services today carry General Patients’ Care, Basic Cardiology Services, Orthopedic Services, Surgical Oncology (Cancer Surgery) and Chemotherapy Services, Intensive Care Unit Services and other medical services, other than leprosy services.

The name Sultan Kudarat was derived from the Muslim ruler, Sultan Muhammad Dipatuan Kudarat who begun to assert his leadership in the year 1619 and reigned in the Sultanate of Maguindanao from 1625 to 1671. He is considered a national hero. The Municipality of Sultan Kudarat was named after him in his honor. To further honor a nationally recognized hero, thus, it is but proper to rename the hospital to SULTAN KUDARAT MEMORIAL AND MEDICAL CENTER.

In view of the foregoing and the entire constituents of the Province of Maguindanao especially the first district, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



**DATU ROONIE QUESADA SIN SUAT, SR.**  
Representative, 1st District of Maguindanao and Cotabato City



Republic of the Philippines  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City

18<sup>th</sup> Congress  
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HOUSE BILL NO. 4646

Introduced by HONORABLE DATU ROONIE QUESADA SINSUAT

**AN ACT EXPANDING THE MANDATE OF COTABATO SANITARIUM  
IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SULTAN KUDARAT, 1<sup>ST</sup> CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT,  
PROVINCE OF MAGUINDANAO IN THE BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION  
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(SKMMC)  
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE**

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

- Section 1.*     *Short Title:* This Act shall be known as the “*The Cotabato Sanitarium Expansion and Development Act*”.
- Section 2.*     The COTABATO SANITARIUM in the Municipality of Sultan Kudarat, 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District, Province of Maguindanao is hereby changed to SULTAN KUDARAT MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER (SKMMC).
- Section 3.*     The SULTAN KUDARAT MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER (SKMMC) shall continue to exist as a DOH Retained Hospital.
- Section 4.*     *General Hospital Services.* The mandate of SULTAN KUDARAT MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER (SKMMC) is hereby expanded into a sanitarium and a general hospital with specialty services and to continue to cater to senior citizen, leprosy patients and the general population.
- Section 5.*     *Bed Capacity.* The Authorized Bed Capacity of SULTAN KUDARAT MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER (SKMMC) is hereby increased to not less than Two Hundred Fifty (250) beds and as determined by the Department of Health and its expanded mandate. It shall continue to improve its services in achieving towards a Level 2 hospital facility.
- Section 6.*     The existing service facilities and professional health care services of the SULTAN KUDARAT MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER (SKMMC) are hereby upgraded to conform with and be commensurate to the bed capacity increase as provided for in section 5 hereof. The Department of Health shall allow and assist in the development and upgrading of SKMMC’s services and specialized services.

- Section 7. Continued Service and Assistance to Leprosy patients.* The mandate of SKMMC is for leprosy treatment, management and prevention shall continue to the interest of the indigent patients being treated under the Leprosy Control Program.
- Section 8. Plantilla Positions.* The existing workforce shall also be correspondingly increased as appropriate to its bed approved bed capacity provided in section 3 of this Act. The DOH, in coordination with the DBM and the CSC, shall determine the additional plantilla positions to be created and filled up upon prior consultation with SKMMC.
- Section 9. Expansion Committee.* There shall be an expansion committee which shall be composed of the Department of Health – Regional Director, the Chief of Hospital of SKDMMC, and the medical and non-medical personnel through their legal or duly designated representatives. The Committee shall be tasked to perform the following:
- a. Expansion Plan.* The expansion scheme, including the proposed timetable for the same, shall be carried out under an expansion plan drawn by the committee under the supervision of the Central Office of the Department of Health.
  - b. Organizational and staffing Pattern.* The organizational and staffing pattern of SKMMC shall be followed by the Committee subject to the evaluation of the Health Human Resource Development Bureau of the Department of Health, Civil Service Commission and the Department of Budget and Management.
- Section 10. Transfer of Assets and Liabilities.* All personnel, medical and non-medical records, assets and properties including facilities, land and buildings and equipment and improvements thereof acquired by Cotabato sanitarium as well as liabilities and obligations are hereby transferred to the Sultan Kudarat Memorial Medical Center.
- Section 11. Security of Tenure.* The position, seniority and security and other rights of tenure of medical and non-medical personnel of Cotabato Sanitarium shall continue to be honored under the SULTAN KUDARAT MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER (SKMMC).
- Section 12. Appropriations.* The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into Law and thereafter.
- Section 13. Supplementary Funding.* The Department of Health, in coordination with the Regional Office and local government units, shall also prepare mechanisms for sourcing supplementary funds to augment the operations of SULTAN KUDARAT MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER (SKMMC).
- Section 14. Repealing Clause,* all laws, decrees, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act shall be deemed amended or repealed accordingly.
- Section 15. Effectivity Clause.* The Act shall take effect after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in any two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

APPROVED