

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH (18th) CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4090

Introduced by REP. JOSE CHRISTOPHER Y. BELMONTE

EXPLANATORY NOTE

First filed in the 17th Congress, House Bill No. 7297 entitled "*Increasing the Bed Capacity of Quirino Memorial Medical Center from Five Hundred (500) Beds to One Thousand (1,000) Beds and Appropriating Funds for It and for Other Purposes*" was authored by this Representation along with Rep. Feliciano Belmonte, Jr., Rep. Vicente Crisologo, Rep. Winston Castelo, Rep. Jorge "Bolet" Banal, and Rep. Alfred Vargas. HB No. 7279 was approved by the House of Representatives on third reading and was transmitted to the Senate for appropriate action.

This measure has yet to be enacted for the State to be able to fully perform its mandate. It seeks to fulfill the mandate of Article XIV Section 1 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution which states that it is the role of the State to "protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels," and that it shall "take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all." Section 2 of the same article declares that the State "shall establish and maintain a system of free public education in the elementary and high school levels."

Quezon City, which is the most populous city in the National Capital Region and the third largest in the Philippines, provides QMMC with the biggest number of patients (44%). QMMC also caters to residents of Antipolo, Rizal, Marikina, Pasig, Caloocan, Montalban, Novaliches, Laguna, Bulacan, and Cavite. Further, QMMC receives referrals from other tertiary-level health care facilities. The hospital's proximity to flood-prone areas (Marikina, Cainta), military camps (Camp Crame and Camp Aguinaldo), major thoroughfares (C-5 and MRT Railways Station 2), and large universities (University of the Philippines, Ateneo de Manila University, and Miriam College) makes QMMC a popular choice among health care facilities.

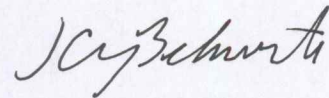
Today, QMMC is a level 3 teaching and training medical center providing patient service such as internal medicine, surgery, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, medical imaging, ophthalmology, otorhinolaryngology head and neck

surgery, anesthesia, and pathology as well as acute psychiatric unit, pediatric and adult dentistry, neurophysiology, respiratory unit, center for neurologic sciences, acute infectious diseases ward, and endoscopy unit. As proof of its commitment to service, in 2010 QMMC was awarded the Center of Excellence status, the highest accreditation level conferred by PhilHealth.

Republic Act No. 10345, enacted in 2012, increased QMMC's bed capacity from 350 to 500. The law gave relief to the hospital, its staff, and its patients after the institutions suffered perennially from inadequate beds, equipment, and manpower. Despite the increase in bed capacity and manpower complement, the hospital continues to experience inadequacies resulting from the persistent influx of patients. QMMC's percentage of occupancy based on authorized bed capacity remains high at 290.95% in 2015, 311.09% in 2016, and 250.82% in 2017, bringing the average annual occupancy rate at 267.87%. This means that the institution operates at a level that is more than twice its capacity. Increasing QMMC's bed capacity from 500 to 1,000 will address the problem and provide the necessary resources to improve the medical center's service.

Providing quality healthcare to Filipinos is at the core of QMMC's mission. Since its humble beginning as a 75-bed hospital to its present 500-bed capacity, one of QMMC's challenges has always been to keep up with the patient load and its expanding services. This bill seeks to increase the capacity of QMMC and implement a corresponding adjustment in manpower complement.

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





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4090
HOUSE BILL NO. _____

Introduced by REP. JOSE CHRISTOPHER Y. BELMONTE

AN ACT
INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF QUIRINO MEMORIAL MEDICAL
CENTER FROM FIVE HUNDRED (500) BEDS TO ONE THOUSAND (1,000)
BEDS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR IT AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The bed capacity of Quirino Memorial Medical Center is hereby
2 increased from five hundred (500) to one thousand (1,000) with concomitant
3 manpower complement.

4 SEC. 2. The Secretary of Health shall include in the program of the
5 Department of Health the implementation of the increase in bed capacity.

6 SEC. 3. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be
7 included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

8 SEC. 4. The increase in bed capacity shall be implemented for the period not
9 more than three years from the approval of this Act.

10 SEC. 5. All laws, decrees, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act shall
11 be deemed amended or repealed accordingly.

12 SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days upon its publication in two
13 (2) newspapers of general circulation.

14 *Approved,*