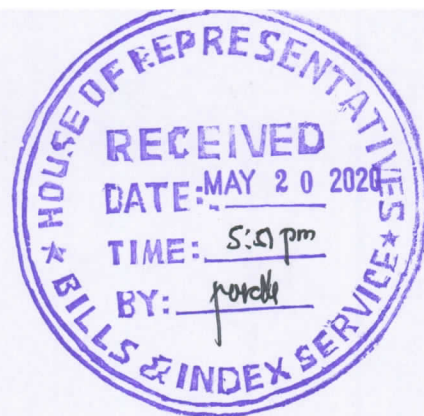


*Republic of the Philippines*  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 6775**



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Introduced by: Representative **Michael B. Gorriceta**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Western Visayas Sanitarium, one of the retained-hospital of the Department of Health in Santa Barbara, Iloilo is way forward to a century of existence. It has been 93 years that it established in 1927 for treatment of leprosy patients in the time when persons affected with the disease were kept and isolated to the general public.

With the introduction of the Multi-Drug-Therapy regimen for leprosy in 1995, the prevalence rate of leprosy has consistently been less than one per 10,000 people. In the past 20 years, the number of new cases continued to dwindle down which necessitated the Department of Health to reassess the functions of Western Visayas Sanitarium. As a result, the Department issued Administrative Order 2005-0013 in 2005 that expanded the role of Western Visayas Sanitarium to cater not only to leprosy patients but also to general health care services and was provided for 50-bed facilities and personnel complement.

The dual role of providing leprosy custodial care and general health care take a toll on limited resources of Western Visayas Sanitarium as to finance, facilities and manpower from the time the 50-bed building for general health care services was inaugurated on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of January 2010. The Western Visayas Sanitarium is licensed to operate as a 75-bed, Level 1 hospital in 2019 with budget allocation from the national government based on its original mandate as leprosarium. It still maintains fifteen (15) custodial leprosy cases and caters to an average of 150-160 admitted patients for general healthcare services and average of 200 out-patient daily consultations under the following services: Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, Obstetrics-Gynecology, Surgery and Family Medicine. The Western Visayas Sanitarium is technically providing healthcare services beyond its capacity as Level 1 hospital.

Increasing trend from 2014 to present statistics in the provision of primary health care services, as reflected in the succeeding table, shows the necessity that the legal mandate of Western Visayas Sanitarium be expanded to ensure quality and affordable health care services, as envisioned in the Universal Health Care.

<b>HOSPITAL INDICATORS</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
Authorized Bed Capacity	50	50	50	50	50
Implementing Beds	50	50	50	50	50
Bed Occupancy Rate	125.31%	297.17%	302.74%	303.91%	315%
Average Daily Census	85	149	152	155	160
Average Length of Stay	3.07	4	4	6	4.2
Total Number of In-Patients	4,378	6,283	9,104	8,645	8,246
Gross Death Rate	-	1.48	1.53	1.44	1.76
Net Death Rate	-	0.89	0.71	0.82	0.97
Hospital Infection Rate	-	0.02	0.07	0.42	0.56
Total Number of Hospital Deliveries	632	910	1,114	1,315	1,351
Caesarian Rate	1.89	6.59	10.68	7.6	10.44
Emergency Room Visits	4,665	8,606	9,312	8,876	11,950
OPD Consultations	35, 847	32,354	38,259	44,638	45,912
Surgeries	462	701	1,599	1,090	1,101
Laboratory Services	63,543	72,959	115,644	119,602	104,038
Radiology Services	6,359	8,329	11,178	13,945	14,883

With the advent of Universal Health Care, the Western Visayas Sanitarium is projected to cater more patients, especially the poor and vulnerable, than presented in the statistical data.

This bill mandates the expansion of Western Visayas Sanitarium into a sanitarium and general hospital to be able to magnify general hospital services and develop specialized services while upholding its original mandate for leprosy prevention, treatment, control and rehabilitation. This would improve the availability of healthcare services for marginal and poor patients in the catchment area.

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



**Hon. Michael B. Gorriceta**



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**AN ACT EXPANDING THE MANDATE AND SERVICE CAPABILITY OF  
THE WESTERN VISAYAS SANITARIUM IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF  
SANTA BARBARA, ILOILO, RENAMING THE HOSPITAL AS WESTERN  
VISAYAS SANITARIUM AND GENERAL HOSPITAL, AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** This Act shall be known as the “Western Visayas Sanitarium Expansion and Development Act”.

**SEC. 2. *Sanitarium Expansion.*** Western Visayas Sanitarium located in Brgy. Inangayan, Santa Barbara, Iloilo is hereby expanded from sanitarium to a sanitarium and general hospital with specialty services on infectious diseases, with authorized bed capacity of 300 and to be known as Western Visayas Sanitarium and General Hospital (WVSGH).

**SEC. 3. *Continued Service and Assistance to Leprosy Patients.*** The facility will continuously work to manage and support the leprosy eradication program of the Department of Health (DOH) especially in Region VI.

**SEC. 4. *Upgrading of Health Service Facilities and Capabilities.*** The existing hospital facilities and professional health care services of the WVSGH are hereby upgraded and increase to conform with and be commensurate to the increase in bed capacity as provided in Section 2 of this Act.

The existing workforce of WVSGH shall be increased correspondingly. The Department of Health (DOH) shall, in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and the Civil Service Commission (CSC), and after consultation with the WVSGH, determine the additional plantilla positions to be created and filled up.

**SEC. 5. *Transfer of Assets and Liabilities.*** Facilities, land and buildings, and equipment acquired by the Western Visayas Sanitarium including its documents, medical and non-medical records, liabilities and obligations are hereby transferred to the Western Visayas Sanitarium and General Hospital.

**SEC. 6. *Security of Tenure.*** The position, seniority and security and other rights of tenure of medical and non-medical personnel of the Western Visayas Sanitarium shall continue to be honored under the Western Visayas Sanitarium and General Hospital.

**SEC 7. *Appropriations.*** The Department of Health shall immediately include in its programs the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

**SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.*** All laws, decrees, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act shall be deemed amended or repealed accordingly. If any provisions or part of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remaining parts of the provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

**SEC. 9. *Effectivity Clause.*** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,