

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **4125**



Introduced by the Honorable Ruby M. Sahali

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The geographical location of the Province of Tawi-Tawi makes it difficult to deliver health services to far flung areas and island municipalities. Due to poverty in these far flung areas, the nearest viable possibility to tend to the health services and medical needs of the people is the island of Bongao, the center of business and government in the province. So far, there are 2 District Hospitals, 2 Municipal Hospitals, and the Provincial Hospital, that comprise the Public Hospital System in Tawi-Tawi.

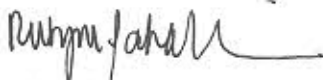
The Datu Halun Sakilan Memorial Hospital is considered as the Provincial Hospital of Tawi-Tawi located in the capital town of Bongao Municipality. The main hospital building consist of a two (2) floors ward wings (East and West Wings also known as the main and extension hospital buildings) and adjacent office buildings for the Integrated Provincial Health Office (IPHO) sitting on a fenced 2.5 hectares land. In 2004 with the assistance from the Philippine Charity and Sweepstakes Office (PCSO), the extended building was constructed to augment the old building on the same site.

Through the years the DHSMH undertook critical interdictions to upgrade its medical manpower complement, equipment and services to address the gradual rise in demand for better medical care services from its clientele coming from nearby island municipalities. The continued rise in the demand may also be attributed to the lack of trained medical staff in the island district and municipal hospitals. Generally, the DHSMH has qualified to become the end-refer.al hospital in the province. With the advent of public hospitals to become PhilHealth compliant, DHSMH after initial accreditation continues to sustain this accreditation serving PhilHealth members in the Province and those Local Government Units-sponsored PhilHealth members from the other island municipalities. At present, DHSMH continues to sustain its operation despite the lack of position utilizing the DOH-ARMM RN HEALS personnel, Provincial Government Office health volunteers and other health personnel from the field in the province as force multipliers.

This Act shall meet the objectives of the DHSMH to assure the quality and affordability of health services, ensure access to available basic health packages, improved performance of health and hospital system, sustain the continued implementation of PhilHealth's "No Billing Balance" policy, and sustain the catering of PhilHealth members in the province.

The upgrading of DHSMH from its current level to the next level as per this Act is necessary to cope with and meet the demands for quality and affordable health services for the people of Tawi-Tawi.

In view thereof, the early passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



RUBY M. SAHALI

Representative, Tawi-Tawi Lone District

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HOUSE BILL NO. **4125**

Introduced by the Honorable **Ruby M. Sahali**

AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF DATU HALUN SAKILAN MEMORIAL HOSPITAL ALSO KNOWN AS THE PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL OF TAWI-TAWI IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BONGAO PROVINCE OF TAWI-TAWI FROM LEVEL 2 WITH FIFTY (50) BED AUTHORIZED CAPACITY TO LEVEL 3 WITH TWO HUNDRED (200) BED AUTHORIZED CAPACITY, UPGRADING ITS SERVICES AND FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS MEDICAL PERSONNEL AND THEIR SALARIES, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

SECTION 1. The authorized bed capacity of the Datu Halun Sakilan Memorial Hospital (DHSMH) also known as the Provincial Hospital of Tawi-Tawi in the Municipality of Bongao Province of Tawi-Tawi is hereby upgraded from Level 2 with fifty (50) bed authorized capacity to Level 3 with two hundred (200) bed authorized capacity.

SECTION 2. The existing service facilities and professional health care services of the DHSMH are hereby upgraded to conform with and be commensurate to the bed capacity increase as provided for in Section 1 hereof.

SECTION 3. The existing workforce, and the salaries of the current employees including field workers and volunteers of the DHSMH shall also be correspondingly increased. The Department of Health, in coordination with the Philippine Regulatory Commission, the Department of Budget and Management and the Civil Service Commission, shall determine the additional *Plantilla* positions and the qualifications of the employments to be created and filled up upon prior consultation with the DHSMH.

SECTION 4. The increase in bed capacity of the DHSMH from fifty (50) to two hundred bed capacity shall be implemented for a period of not more than four (4) years from the approval of this Act.

SECTION 5. The increase in bed capacity of the DHSMH shall also include the provision of X-Ray Facilities, Radiology, other laboratories, and such other facilities necessary for the health and medical needs of the people of Tawi-Tawi.

SECTION 6. The Secretary of Health shall immediately include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 7. 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,