



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. **2964**

Introduced by Representative SOLOMON R. CHUNGALAO

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A HUNDRED-BED EXTENSION OF THE LUIS HORA
MEMORIAL REGIONAL HOSPITAL IN THE PROVINCE OF IFUGAO, TO BE
KNOWN AS THE LUIS HORA MEMORIAL REGIONAL HOSPITAL – IFUGAO
EXTENSION HOSPITAL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill is filed to address the cries and pleas of the people of Ifugao as a province and those in the eastern border of Mt. Province. It would also address the needs of those from the province of Kalinga and Apayao for decent medical facilities without tribal and ethnic discriminations. Furthermore, Ifugao is the home of the famous rice terraces with four (4) UNESCO heritage sites. One of the essential requirements for a meaningful and doable tourism industry is the establishment and presence of a decent medical facility to address the needs of foreign and local tourists in the area.

Ifugao's population was recorded at 191,000 in the 2010 Census of Population and Housing, and was projected to double by 2050.¹ By 2015 our population had already increased by over 10,000, recorded at 202,802.² Of Ifugao's eleven municipalities, Alfonso Lista's recorded population was the largest (at 14.9%), followed by Lamut (12.1%), Banaue (11.7%), Aguineldo (9.7%), Lagawe (9.5%), Mayaoyao (8.6%), Kiangan (8.3%), Asipulo (7.5%), Tinoc (7.4%), Hungduan (5.2%), and Hingyon (5.1%).³ As Ifugao is a popular tourist destination, this population

¹ Census Activity Reference No. 2013-118, "Ifugao's Population was Recorded at 191 Thousand (Results from the 2010 Census of Population and Housing)," PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY, 12 July 2013, *available at* <https://psa.gov.ph/content/ifugao-population-was-recorded-191-thousand-results-2010-census-population-and-housing>.

² Ifugao Quick Statistics, PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY, June 2018, *available at* <https://psa.gov.ph/content/ifugao-quickstat-june-2018>

³ Census Activity Reference No. 2013-118, *supra* at Note 1

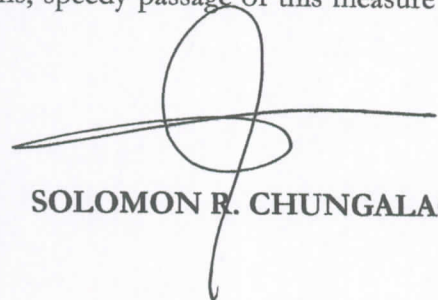
is often augmented by thousands of outsiders. An estimated 250,000 foreign as well as local tourists and visitors come to the province each year.⁴

Yet despite the growing population and volume of visitors received by our province every year, it is an acknowledged reality that provincial health facilities are unable to meet their needs. It is a common experience for residents of Ifugao and tourists to have to go out of the province in order to receive adequate health care, often to Bauko in the Mountain Province or Solano in Nueva Vizcaya. The establishment and operation of an Ifugao Provincial Hospital in Lagawe, the provincial capital, has encountered numerous obstacles, which issues have yet to be resolved.

In the interest of providing more Ifugaos, as well as the neighboring eastern borders of Mt. Province, Province of Kalinga, and Province of Apayao, and foreign and local tourists, with easier access to adequate health care, this bill proposes the creation of an extension of the Luis Hora Memorial Regional Hospital (located in Bauko, Mountain Province) in the province of Ifugao. It may be noteworthy that the late Congressman Luis Hora was congressman of the province of Ifugao for sixteen (16) years in the third congressional district of the whole Cordillera when it was still Mountain Provinces before its separation and segregation of the present provinces composing the Cordillera.

While the creation of the Luis Hora Memorial Regional Hospital – Ifugao Extension Hospital, as it shall be called, is done largely because of the problems encountered with the Ifugao Provincial Hospital, I must stress that this extension hospital is not intended as a replacement for the Ifugao Provincial Hospital. The responsible officials should continue to sort out the problems with the Ifugao Provincial Hospital and ensure that it is eventually operational.

In the meantime, Ifugaos, as well as foreign and local tourists, should be able to rely on the hospital created under this bill. For the foregoing reasons, speedy passage of this measure is earnestly sought.



SOLOMON R. CHUNGALAO

⁴ Data as of 2017. See Pamela Mariz Geminiano, "Ifugao sets up homestays, as PRRD eyes it as next tourist hub," *Philippine News Agency*, 22 June 2018, available at <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1039149>



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

2964

House Bill No. _____

Introduced by Representative SOLOMON R. CHUNGALAO

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A HUNDRED-BED EXTENSION OF THE LUIS HORA
MEMORIAL REGIONAL HOSPITAL IN THE PROVINCE OF IFUGAO, TO BE
KNOWN AS THE LUIS HORA MEMORIAL REGIONAL HOSPITAL – IFUGAO
EXTENSION HOSPITAL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. *Extension of Regional Hospital.* – There shall be established, under the control and supervision of the Department of Health, a hundred-bed extension of the Luis Hora Memorial Regional Hospital, which extension shall be in the Province of Ifugao, to be known as the Luis Hora Memorial Regional Hospital – Ifugao Extension Hospital.

SECTION 2. *Location.* – The Luis Hora Memorial Regional Hospital – Ifugao Extension Hospital, shall be constructed and located between the boundary or adjacent to the boundary of the Municipality of Mayoyao and Municipality of Aguinaldo, Province of Ifugao.

SECTION 3. *Personnel.* – After the construction of the Luis Hora Memorial Regional Hospital – Ifugao Extension Hospital, the Department of Health thru the Secretary of Health shall make sure that personnel of the extension hospital will be provided and appointed thereof and that funds for its maintenance and operation are provided for.

SECTION 4. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be charged against the existing budget of the Department of Health under the 2020 General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the operation and maintenance of the Ifugao Extension Hospital shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 5. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,