

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 6159



Introduced by Representative Conrado M. Estrella III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The right to health is a constitutionally enshrined right of every Filipino. Section 15, Article II of the Constitution provides, "The state shall promote and protect the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them."

The Constitution further provides, in Section 11, Article XIII thereof, "The state shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the underprivileged sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children. The State shall endeavor to provide free medical care to paupers."

To promote and protect the right to health, the State must ensure the establishment of appropriate and accessible health facilities that provide needed and affordable health services to the greater number of our people especially the less privileged.

The universal health care thrust of the administration as embodied in Republic Act No. 11223, otherwise known as the Universal Health Care Act, is anchored on the constitutional imperatives for promoting and protecting the right to health of every Filipino especially the poor who cannot afford to pay for needed health care services.

Pursuant to the aforementioned constitutional imperatives and the policy of the Duterte administration to achieve universal health care for our people, this bill seeks to establish a regional hospital to be known as the Eastern

Pangasinan Regional Medical and Trauma Center to be located in the Municipality of Rosales, Pangasinan.

The existing regional medical facility in the province located in Dagupan City is largely inaccessible to Pangasinenses residing in Eastern Pangasinan. People have to travel such long distance to reach Dagupan City so as to avail of needed medical services. Dagupan City is prone to flooding during the rainy season which makes access to medical services therein even more difficult. It is harrowing to imagine the hardships of people residing in Eastern Pangasinan particularly those who need emergency medical assistance and trauma interventions, who have to traverse such long distance to Dagupan City to receive the medical help they need! Existing district hospitals with their limited bed capacity also do not provide enough of the medical services needed by the people especially for emergency medical care and trauma interventions.

The establishment of the Eastern Pangasinan Regional Medical and Trauma Center will ensure that the people of Eastern Pangasinan as well as those in adjacent localities including portions of Tarlac and Nueva Ecija are provided easy and timely access to affordable medical services they direly need thereby making universal health care a meaningful reality in their daily lives.

In view of the foregoing, immediate passage of this bill is strongly urged.



REP. CONRADO M. ESTRELLA III
Deputy Speaker

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE
EASTERN PANGASINAN REGIONAL MEDICAL AND TRAUMA CENTER IN
THE MUNICIPALITY OF ROSALES, PANGASINAN
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

Section 1. There is hereby established in the Municipality of Rosales, Province of Pangasinan a three-hundred (300) bed capacity Regional Hospital to be known as the Eastern Pangasinan Regional Medical and Trauma Center under the direct control, supervision and management of the Department of Health (DOH).

Section 2. The Department of Health (DOH) shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

Section 3. 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 every year thereafter.

Section 4. This Act shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

Approved,