



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session
5398
House Bill No. _____



Introduced by **HON. JOSEFINA B. TALLADO**

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AN ELDERLY CARE AND NURSING COMPLEX IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES NORTE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The family has the duty to care for its elderly members but the State may also do so through just programs of social security. This is the exact wording of Section 4, Article XV of the 1987 Philippine Constitution.

While our Filipino family tradition impels that we take care of our elderly, there are certain realities where some elderly are being neglected, either through pre-occupation of family members, change in family dynamics, or just the fact that there are no remaining family member available to take of the elderly. There are also those that never married, and, in the twilight of their years find themselves alone and neglected and can no longer sustain themselves.

The framers of our Constitution has envisioned the above-scenario which is why they have inserted the novel provision of caring for the elderly. It is important to note that no such provision exists in the 1935 or 1973 Constitution. It is only in the present constitution that specifically determined the role of the State in taking care of the elderly's welfare.

Camarines Norte, based on the 2015 census of the Philippine Statistics Authority has 37,258 Senior Citizens and some of them lack sustenance and proper care which their circumstances require. This representation has personally witnessed on several occasions the dire situations of some of our elderly which moved me to seek the passage of an act to protect and promote their welfare.

Surely, there is constitutional basis for the passage of this act, the establishment of an elderly care and nursing complex, which will take care of the needs of our senior citizens who require special care and attention, is a step towards fulfilling the role of the state in taking care of our elderly.

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


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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** This Act shall be known as the "Camarines Norte Elderly Care and
2 Nursing Complex Act".
3

4 **SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to provide elderly
5 care and nursing complex in every provinces by providing quality and affordable care and nursing facilities
6 to elderly Filipinos who has no remaining family members or whose family members cannot provide or
7 meet their special needs. However, for purposes of this Act, a pilot elderly care and nursing project
8 complex in the Bicol Region will be constructed in the province of Camarines Norte to serve as a testing
9 site and ultimately a model for such elderly care and nursing complex.
10

11 **SECTION 3. Definition of Terms.** – For purposes of this Act, the following terms are hereby
12 defined:
13

- 14 a. Elderly – refers to senior citizens or a person whose age is sixty (60) years old and above.
15 b. Elderly Care – is the fulfilment of the special needs and requirements of the elderly as may
16 be determined by the Department of Health and the Department of Social Welfare and
17 Development
18 c. Nursing Complex – refers to the place and the facilities that are designed to provide skilled
19 care to the elderly twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.
20

21 **SECTION 4. Coverage.** – This Act shall apply to all elderly persons who wish to avail of the
22 elderly care and nursing complex in Camarines Norte who has no remaining family members or whose
23 family members cannot provide or meet the special needs and requirements of the elderly.
24

25 **SECTION 5. *Administration and Supervision.*** – The Provincial Governor shall designate the area
26 in the province where to establish the proposed elderly care and nursing complex. He shall appoint the
27 person or entity who will administer and supervise the elderly care and nursing complex.
28

29 **SECTION 6. *Role of Government Agencies and Instrumentalities.*** – Government agencies and
30 instrumentality, particularly the Department of Health and the department of Social Welfare and
31 Development shall provide the necessary assistance, capital outlay and support to fulfill the needs of the
32 elderly residing in this elderly care and nursing complex.
33

34 **SECTION 7. *Role of Family Members.*** Family members shall be provided with adequate
35 information on the system as well as for sharing experiences to enable them to care for their elderly.
36

37 **SECTION 8. *Personnel Recruitment and Incentives.*** – All personnel involved in the Complex
38 shall have adequate and appropriate education and training to be determined and provided by the
39 Department of Health, in consultation with the Department of Social Welfare and Development.
40

41 **SECTION 9. *Appropriations.*** – To carry out the provisions of this Act, there is hereby appropriated
42 the sum of One Hundred Fifty Million Pesos (Php150,000,000.00) which shall be charged to the
43 appropriations of the Department of Health and the Department of Social Welfare and Development for
44 the current year. Thereafter, the appropriation for such funds as may be necessary for the purpose shall
45 be provided for in the General Appropriations Act.
46

47 **SECTION 10. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – The Department of Health and the
48 Department of Social Welfare and Development shall jointly issue the necessary rules and regulations
49 for the effective implementation of this Act.
50

51 **SECTION 11. *Repealing Clause.*** All provisions of laws, orders, decrees, including rules and
52 regulations inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed and/or modified accordingly.
53

54 **SECTION 12. *Separability Clause.*** – If any part or provision of this Act shall be held to be
55 unconstitutional or invalid, other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in
56 full force and effect.
57

58 **SECTION 13. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
59 Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.
60

61 **Approved,**