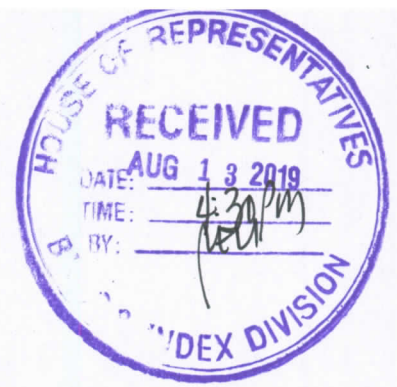


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Philippines

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3882



Introduced by **Hon. LORNA P. BAUTISTA-BANDIGAN**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution provides in Article II, Section 15 that "the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill consciousness among them". Furthermore, Article XIII, Section 11 that "the State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other services available to all the people at affordable cost".

It is in this spirit that this Bill seeks to upgrade the Malita District Hospital into a tertiary hospital and increasing its bed capacity from twenty-five (25) bed capacity to one hundred (100) bed capacity and renaming it to Davao Occidental Medical Center. Barely five (5) years old, the province is classified as a fourth class province. In the year 2016, the estimated population is about three hundred sixteen thousand three hundred forty-two (316,342) and with an estimated annual income of Three hundred thirty-four million eighteen thousand one hundred sixty-eight pesos (Php334,018,168.00), which an amount is not sufficient to provide the required services needed for the economic uplift and well-being of its people. Sixty-nine percent (69%) of the population is composed of subsistence farmers and marginal fisherfolks. Poverty incidence is high and even the education, as well as the health services cannot hardly cope the demands of its constituencies.

Malita District Hospital which is 75.9 kilometers from the province takes more than one and a half hour to reach especially during inclement weather. The hospital lacks modern facilities and equipment and the existing amenities are not up to par. The more modern hospital is Southern Philippines Medical Center in Davao City, which is 133.6 kilometers away from the Province of Davao Occidental and has to be traversed in two (2) hours and fifty-five (5) minutes. It is very difficult for the poor residents of remote barangays to avail medical services due to the distance and the expense in going to the abovementioned hospital. In spite of the sparse resources and a limited services of the Malita District Hospital, people coming from the peripheral areas who are seeking health care are seeking for something more affordable and serviceable.

It is not unusual to see patients who are waiting for medical services to stay in the corridors of the hospital while being treated or recovering from various sicknesses and illnesses.

In line with the desire of the Duterte's administration to provide quality health services to our citizens, we are seeking for the upgrading of the Malita District Hospital into a tertiary hospital with better equipment, health service and facilities to effectively and efficiently deliver the needed health care services.

It is for these reasons that the early passage of this Bill is earnestly sought.



LORNA P. BAUTISTA-BANDIGAN
Representative
Lone District - Davao Occidental

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Philippines

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

3882

HOUSE BILL NO. _____

Introduced by **Hon. LORNA P. BAUTISTA-BANDIGAN**

AN ACT

UPGRADING THE MALITA DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MALITA, PROVINCE OF DAVAO OCCIDENTAL INTO A LEVEL III GENERAL HOSPITAL, TO BE KNOWN AS THE DAVAO OCCIDENTAL MEDICAL CENTER, UNDER THE DIRECT SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, INCREASING ITS BED CAPACITY FROM TWENTY-FIVE (25) TO ONE HUNDRED (100), AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. The Malita District Hospital in the Municipality of Malita, Province of Davao Occidental is hereby upgraded into a Level III General Hospital to be known as Davao Occidental Medical Center and shall be under the direct supervision and control of the Department of Health.

The bed capacity of Davao Occidental Medical Center in the Municipality of Malita, Province of Davao Occidental is hereby increased from twenty-five (25) to one hundred (100) beds.

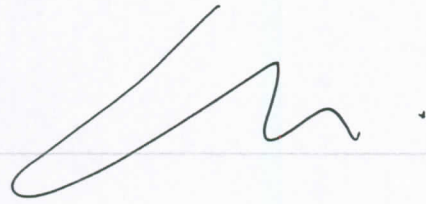
SEC. 2. The existing service facilities and professional health care services of the Davao Occidental Medical Center are hereby upgraded to conform with and be commensurate to the increase in bed capacity as provided in Section 1 hereof.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Health shall include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 4. The Secretary of Health shall prepare the implementing rules and regulations upon consultation with the Provincial Government of Davao Occidental and other stakeholders and shall be implemented consistent with the Hospital Development Plan.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, sweeping initial 'L' followed by a smaller, more complex flourish.