



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City



**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
*First Regular Session*

House Bill No. 3266

---

Introduced by **HON. VICENTE S.E. VELOSO III**

---

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

According to Philippine Statistics Authority, as of 2018, Region VIII is the Third Poorest Region in the Philippines; within Region VIII, the Third District of Leyte is its poorest District.

Corollarily, Article XIII, Section 11 of the 1987 Constitution mandates that the "State shall endeavor to provide free medical care to the poor." Yet, the Third District of Leyte has **no district hospital**. It only has **two (2) infirmaries** – one in Tabango and another one in Calubian. It was because of such deficiency, not to mention its being about 160 kilometers away from Tacloban City where Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center (EVRMC) is located, that in 2017, the Department of Health decided to put up an EVRMC Extension in Villaba, Leyte which, at present, has only 25 bed capacity.

As an extension hospital of EVRMC, it is supposed to cater to the medical needs not only of the 210,000 residents of the Third District of Leyte, it too was envisioned to provide medical care to residents of the whole of Biliran and residents of the Second and Fourth Districts of Leyte, or a total of 835,000 (more or less) residents. But even if we are to reckon only with Third District of Leyte residents, at the World Health Organization Standard ratio of 1 bed for every 1,000 population, a **200 bed capacity** will be necessary to address the aforementioned mandate of the Constitution.

It is in view of the foregoing that approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

**VICENTE S.E. VELOSO III**  
Representative, 3<sup>rd</sup> District of Leyte



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
*First Regular Session*

House Bill No. 3266

---

Introduced by **HON. VICENTE S.E. VELOSO III**

---

**AN ACT CONVERTING EASTERN VISAYAS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER  
– VILLABA EXTENSION (EVRMC-VILLABA EXTENSION) IN THE  
MUNICIPALITY OF VILLABA, PROVINCE OF LEYTE, TO A TERTIARY  
HOSPITAL AND TO INCREASE ITS BED CAPACITY FROM TWENTY-FIVE  
(25) BEDS TO TWO HUNDRED (200) BEDS, UPGRADING THE SERVICE,  
FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE THEREIN, AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1       **SECTION 1.** The Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center Extension in  
2 Villaba, Leyte shall be converted to a tertiary hospital to be known as Eastern  
3 Visayas Medical Center – Villaba Extension or “EVRMC-Villaba Extension”.

4       **SECTION 2.** Its present twenty-five (25) bed capacity shall be increased to  
5 two hundred (200) beds.

6       **SECTION 3.** The existing workforce of the EVRMC-Villaba Extension shall  
7 be correspondingly increased to conform with the afore-mandated increase in  
8 authorized bed capacity.

9       **SECTION 4.** The Department of Health, in coordination with the Department  
10 of Budget and Management and the Civil Service Commission, shall determine  
11 the additional plantilla positions to be created and filled up as a result of the  
12 herein mandated increase in bed capacity.

13       **SECTION 5.** The EVRMC-Villaba Extension shall submit to the Department  
14 of Health its proposed hospital development plan, the additional clinical  
15 departments, as well as buildings, equipment and facilities needed to meet the  
16 increased authorized bed capacity herein mandated.

17       **SECTION 6.** The amount needed to carry out the provisions of this Act shall  
18 be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment  
19 into law and every year thereafter.

1       **SECTION 7.** The increase in bed capacity herein provided shall be  
2 implemented for a period of not more than two (2) years from approval of this  
3 Act.

4       **SECTION 8.** The Secretary of the Department of Health shall include in the  
5 Department's programs the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall  
6 be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

7       **SECTION 9.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication  
8 in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

9       *Approved.*