

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 831

Introduced by **Rep. Gabriel H. Bordado, Jr.**

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Previously known as the Bicol Regional Training and Teaching Hospital (BRTTH), the Bicol Medical Center (BMC) in Naga City serves patients principally coming from the 6 provinces and 7 cities of the Bicol Region aside from conducting teaching/training and research programs. Pursuant to Republic Act No. 8053, the BMC has been authorized to operate on a 300 - bed capacity, excluding the Don Susano V. Rodriguez Memorial Mental Hospital located in Cadlan, Pili, Camarines Sur, which has a 200 - bed capacity and which is likewise under its jurisdiction.

The BMC actually traces its roots to a 25 - bed provincial hospital established in 1933 in a rented Spanish-style edifice in Naga City. Due to inadequate facilities, however, the provincial hospital folded up in 1936. Four years later, the then Commonwealth government started building what would be the precursor of the present-day hospital straddling an area of, more or less, 15 hectares.

At this stage, the BMC gallantly tries to live up to its standing as the premier government hospital in a region rich in natural resources but ironically saddled by grinding poverty. Gallantry, though, has its limits especially in the context of the inadequacies hounding the medical center a couple of decades after its inception. Just imagine that the BMC has to contend with an average of 850 patients a day -- far exceeding its 500-bed capacity.

This bill, therefore, calls for an increase in the bed capacity of BMC to 1000; a corresponding upgrade in its service facilities and professional health care; and the allocation of sufficient funding to effect such overdue reforms, as it were.

Given the urgency of the bill, its immediate passage is earnestly sought.

GABRIEL H. BORDADO JR.

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HOUSE BILL NO. 831

Introduced by **REP. GABRIEL H. BORDADO, JR.**

AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF BICOL MEDICAL CENTER FROM FIVE HUNDRED (500) BEDS TO ONE THOUSAND (1000) BEDS, UPGRADING ITS SERVICE FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS MEDICAL WORKFORCE COMPLEMENT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8053, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. The Authorized bed capacity of the Bicol Medical Center (BMC) is hereby increased from five hundred (500) beds to one thousand (1000) beds. The Secretary of Health shall implement the increase in bed capacity of the BMC consistent with the five (5)-year development plan of the hospital.

SEC. 2. The existing hospital facilities and professional health care services of the BMC are also hereby upgraded and increased to conform with and be commensurate to the bed capacity increase as provided under Section 1 hereof.

SEC. 3. Upon consultation with the management of the BMC, the Secretary of Health shall, in coordination with the Secretary of Budget and Management and the Chairperson of the Civil Service Commission, determine the additional plantilla positions to be created and filled up in the workforce of BMC.

SEC. 4. The Secretary of Health shall immediately include in the Department's programs the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 5. Republic Act 8053, otherwise known as "An Act Converting the Bicol Regional Training and Teaching Hospital into Bicol Medical Center, Defining its Functions, Responsibilities, Powers and Authority, and Appropriating Funds Therefor" is hereby amended accordingly. All laws, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modifies accordingly.

SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect within fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,