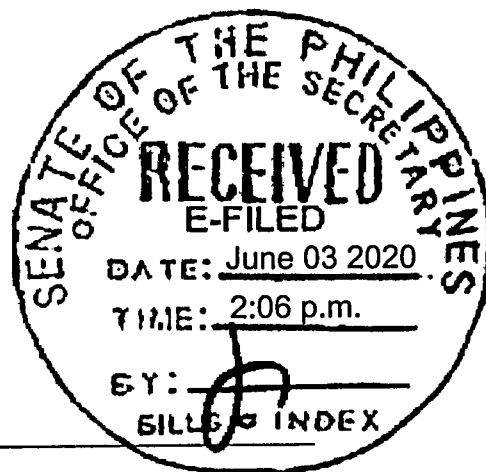


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*First Regular Session* )

SENATE

S.B. No. **1584**



Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

**AN ACT**

**CONVERTING THE SCHISTOSOMIASIS CONTROL AND RESEARCH HOSPITAL IN PALO, LEYTE INTO A GENERAL HOSPITAL TO BE KNOWN AS THE GOVERNOR BENJAMIN T. ROMUALDEZ GENERAL HOSPITAL, INCREASING ITS BED CAPACITY FROM TWENTY-FIVE (25) TO ONE HUNDRED (100), UPGRADING ITS SERVICES AND FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS MEDICAL PERSONNEL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

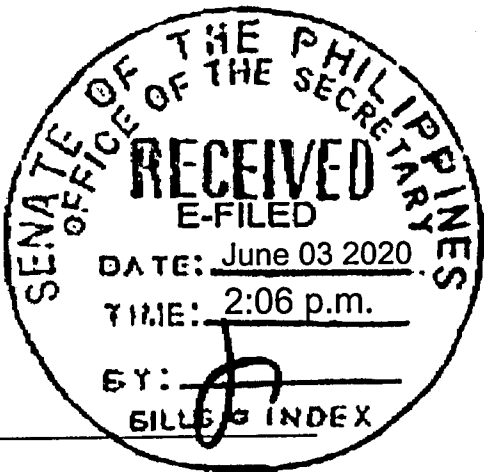
Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall protect the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them. It is the policy of the state to ensure that all communities have access to quality and accessible healthcare.

The Schistosomiasis Control and Research Hospital (SHRC) was founded in 1975 by President Ferdinand E. Marcos through the efforts of then Leyte Governor, Benjamin T. Romualdez. SHRC was established to assist the Schistosomiasis Control and Research Service (SCRS) by providing medical and health care services to patients with schistosomiasis nationwide. Today, SHRC not only accepts patients with schistosomiasis, it has expanded its medical services to patients with different illnesses. Based on the records of SHRC, it extends medical care to patients coming from Palo and its surrounding communities including Surigao. Although SHRC is slowly upgrading its facilities, it is not enough to extend medical care to the increasing number of patients to be admitted in SHRC.

To address this problem, this bill proposes to convert SHRC into a general hospital to be known as the Governor Benjamin T. Romualdez hospital and increase its authorized bed capacity from twenty-five (25) to one hundred (100) beds; thereby upgrading its medical services and facilities and authorizing the increase of its medical personnel.

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

  
**IMEE R. MARCOS**  
Senator



SENATE

S.B. No. **1584**

Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

**AN ACT**  
**CONVERTING THE SCHISTOSOMIASIS CONTROL AND RESEARCH**  
**HOSPITAL IN PALO, LEYTE INTO A GENERAL HOSPITAL TO BE KNOWN AS**  
**THE GOVERNOR BENJAMIN T. ROMUALDEZ GENERAL HOSPITAL,**  
**INCREASING ITS BED CAPACITY FROM TWENTY-FIVE (25) TO ONE**  
**HUNDRED (100), UPGRADING ITS SERVICES AND FACILITIES AND**  
**PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS**  
**MEDICAL PERSONNEL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1       Section 1. The Schistosomiasis Control and Research Hospital in Palo, Leyte is  
2 hereby converted into a general hospital to be known as the Governor Benjamin T.  
3 Romualdez General Hospital.

4  
5       Section 2. The authorized bed capacity of the Schistosomiasis Control and  
6 Research Hospital in Palo, Leyte shall be increased from twenty-five (25) to one  
7 hundred (100).

8  
9       Section 3. The primary mandate of the Governor Benjamin T. Romualdez  
10 General Hospital for schistosomiasis treatment, management and prevention and  
11 research shall continue to the interest of the schistosomiasis patients.

12  
13       Section 4. The Department of Health shall determine the service capability of  
14 Governor Benjamin T. Romualdez General Hospital and allow the development and  
15 upgrading of general hospital services.

16  
17       Section 5. The existing human resource requirement of the Governor Benjamin  
18 T. Romualdez General Hospital be correspondingly increased to conform with the  
19 aforementioned increase in authorized bed capacity. The Department of Health, in  
20 coordination with the Department of Budget and Management and the Civil Service  
21 Commission, shall determine and approve the additional plantilla positions to be  
22 created and filled upon prior consultation and recommendation by the Governor  
23 Benjamine T. Romualdez General Hospital.  
24

1       Section 6. Existing service facilities and professional healthcare services are also  
2 hereby upgraded to conform with and be commensurate to the aforementioned  
3 increase in authorized bed capacity. The Governor Benjamin T. Romualdez Hospital  
4 shall submit to the Department of Health its proposed hospital development plan and  
5 the additional clinical units it requires to meet the increased authorized bed capacity.  
6

7       Section 7. The increase in bed capacity of the Governor Benjamin T. Romualdez  
8 General Hospital shall be implemented for a period of not more than two (2) years  
9 from the approval of this Act.  
10

11       Section 8. The Secretary of Health shall immediately include the Department's  
12 programs in the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be charged  
13 against the unappropriated balance of the Department of Health. Thereafter, the  
14 amount necessary for the continued operation of the Governor Benjamin T. Romualdez  
15 General Hospital shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA).  
16

17       Section 9. If any part or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid,  
18 other parts for provisions hereof which are not affected shall continue to remain in full  
19 force and effect.  
20

21       Section 10. All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts  
22 thereof inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act are deemed  
23 amended, repealed or modified accordingly.  
24

25       Section 11. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following completion of  
26 its publication in the *Official Gazette* in at least two (2) newspapers of general  
27 circulation.

*Approved,*