

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

House Bill No. 570



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INTRODUCED BY Rep. GREG G. GASATAYA

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Art. II, Sec. 15 of the 1987 Constitution states that "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them." Furthermore, Art. XIII, Sec. 11 of the same further emphasizes that "the State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the underprivileged, sick, elderly, disabled, women and children. The State shall endeavor to provide free medical care to paupers." Pursuant to the provisions of the Constitution, the government must continuously exert efforts in ensuring quality and accessible healthcare for its people.

The City of Bacolod is one of the highest populated cities in the country which serves as capital city of the province of Negros Occidental. With a population of 561,875 residents as per the 2015 census, it is the most populous city in the Western Visayas and the second most populous in the entire Visayas, next to Cebu City.

Despite the existence of a good number of hospitals in the city, the state of public healthcare has become one of the pertinent points of discussion among the city's residents and public officials as private hospital services are not as affordable and there is only one hospital, the Corazon Locsin Montelibano Memorial Regional Hospital (CLMMRH), that serves as the sole end referral hospital for poor and indigent residents of Bacolod City. As the lone tertiary premiere government hospital in the entire province of Negros Occidental, the CLMMRH, with a bed

capacity of only 400 and average daily census of 724, not only caters to the 561,875 residents of Bacolod City but also to the hundreds of thousands of residents of cities and municipalities in the province.

This bill seeks to establish a government-owned district hospital in the City of Bacolod, Province of Negros Occidental as a proactive measure to prevent the overcrowding of the CLMMRH and to provide an avenue for public healthcare that is exclusive to the Lone District of Bacolod.

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



**REP. GREG G. GASATAYA**  
*Lone District of Bacolod*

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A HOSPITAL IN THE CITY OF  
BACOLOD, PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL, TO BE KNOWN AS  
THE BACOLOD CITY DISTRICT HOSPITAL, AND APPROPRIATING  
FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**SECTION 1.** There shall be established under the direct supervision of the Department of Health a district hospital in the City of Bacolod, Province of Negros Occidental to be known as the Bacolod City District Hospital.

**SECTION 2.** The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be charged against the appropriations authorized for the purpose under the fiscal year 2019 General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the operation and maintenance of the herein hospital shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

**SECTION 3.** Before the construction of the hospital, the Secretary of Health shall issue a written assurance that personnel of the hospital will be appointed and that funds for its maintenance and operation have been appropriated.

**SECTION 4.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,