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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8876

Introduced by HON. EDGAR M. CHATTO
First District, Bohol

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Governor Celestino Gallares Memorial Hospital (GCGMH) started with an eight (8) bed capacity when it opened in 1929 as the Bohol Provincial Hospital. To accommodate the increasing number of patients in Tagbilaran City and neighboring municipalities, the bed capacity was increased one hundred fifty (150) in 1980 then to two hundred (200) 1992. Under Republic Act No. 7266, the bed capacity was increased to two hundred and twenty five (225) and finally to five hundred twenty five (525) under Republic Act No. 11324 in 2019.

GCGMH is nestled in a 1.10-hectare land in the middle of the business district of Bohol’s capital city of Tagbilaran. As one of the worst hit during the 7.2 magnitude earthquake in October 2013, modernization of the GCGMH was identified as one of the priority projects in the Central Visayas Rehabilitation Plan as well as the national Government’s reconstruction and recovery efforts for the province.

The proposed modernization project will support the national health policy on Universal Health Program or the Kalusugang Pangkalahan as embodied in the Department of Health Reform Agenda, and the attainment of the health-related Millenium Development Goals. The project will likewise support the Central Visayas regional strategic framework of providing adequate health facilities and resources in areas that are unserved, underserved and affected by calamities as contained in the Central Visayas Updated Regional Development Plan 2014-2016.

To implement the modernization program and the recent approval of the increased bed capacity of GCGMH, it is imperative to construct a new medical complex outside its current location in the city. Hence, the proposed location of the extension is in the 5-hectare lot in Barangay Malayo, Municipality of Cortes donated by the provincial government of Bohol to the Department of Health in 28 February 2014. This extension will complement and expand the services available at the main branch in Tagbilaran City consistent with the NEDA Board approval of the project on September 2016.
The health and medical services of GCGMH has accordingly and immensely evolved over the years. From a provider of basic health care, GCGMH is now a level three hospital with specialty centers and training facilities. Hence, the need to change the name to medical center to reflect the added and improved health services now being given by GCGMH to its patients.

The proposed extension in Cortes is envisioned to house a medical complex that will include modern facilities for critical care, diagnostics, dialysis, operating units, and patient care among others. It is also envisioned to have an improved center for infectious diseases and tropical medicine as well as the first center in the province dedicated to mental health and behavioral sciences.

Ultimately, the proposed bill aims decongest hospitals in nearby provinces especially in Cebu, greatly improve medical facilities and services, ensure accessibility and affordability of healthcare services in the province, and open opportunities to Boholano professionals in the medical field.

Management, operation, supervision and control of the extension medical facility in Cortes will remain with the GCGMH – its mother unit in Tagbilaran City under one medical chief to ensure consistency of programs and services.

Further, the need to change the name to medical center to reflect the added and improved health services now being given by GCGMH to its patients.

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

REP. EDGAR M. CHATTO
Republic of the Philippines

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HOUSE BILL NO. 8876

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First District, Bohol

"AN ACT
RENAMING THE GOVERNOR CELESTINO GALLARES MEMORIAL HOSPITAL IN THE CITY OF TAGBILARAN, PROVINCE OF BOHOL TO GOVERNOR CELESTINO GALLARES MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER THEREBY AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11324, AND ESTABLISHING AN EXTENSION TO BE LOCATED AT THE MUNICIPALITY OF CORTES, PROVINCE OF BOHOL, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. The Governor Celestino Gallares Memorial Hospital in Tagbilaran City, Province of Bohol, is hereby renamed as Governor Celestino Gallares Memorial Medical Center.

SEC. 2. The existing services, capability, professional health care services and medical staff complement of the Governor Celestino Gallares Memorial Medical Center is hereby upgraded and increased to correspond with the requirements of the medical center.

SEC. 3. The increase in the service capability, health care services and bed capacity shall conform to the hospital development plan of the medical center.

SEC. 4. There shall be established, under the control and supervision of the Department of Health, an extension of the Governor Celestino Gallares Memorial Medical Center which shall be known as the Governor Celestino Gallares Memorial Medical Center – Cortes Extension.

SEC. 5. The Governor Celestino Gallares Memorial Medical Center – Cortes Extension shall be constructed in barangay Malayo, municipality of Cortes, province of Bohol.
SEC. 6. The Governor Celestino Gallares Memorial Medical Center – Cortes Extension shall provide all the existing services and be subject to the supervision and control of its mother unit, the Governor Celestino Gallares Memorial Medical Center located at Tagbilaran City, province of Bohol.

SEC. 7. The Department of Health shall determine the staffing pattern as approved by the Department of Budget and Management, appoint the officials and employees of the Governor Celestino Gallares Memorial Medical Center – Cortes Extension subject to civil service laws, rules and regulations, prescribe their duties and fix their compensation in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act No. 6758 otherwise known as the “Compensation and Position Classification Act of 1989”.

SEC. 8. Republic Act No. 11324 entitled, “An Act Increasing the Bed Capacity of Governor Celestino Gallares Memorial Hospital (GCGMH) in Tagbilaran City, Province of Bohol from Two Hundred Twenty-Five (225) to Five Hundred Twenty-Five (525) Beds and Upgrading its Services and Facilities, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 7266, and Appropriating Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes,” is hereby amended accordingly.

SEC. 9. The Secretary of Health shall immediately include in the Department’s program the operationalization of the Governor Celestino Gallares Memorial Medical Center – Cortes Extension, the initial funding of which shall be charged against the current year’s appropriation for the Department of Health. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the continued operation of the medical center shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC 10. The Secretary of Health shall be given the authority to determine the increase in bed capacity of the Governor Celestino Gallares Memorial Medical Center as the need arises.

SEC. 11. Within ninety (90) days from the approval of this Act, the Secretary of Health shall, in consultation with the Secretary of Budget and Management, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 12. All acts, presidential decrees, executive orders and issuances inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 13. If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or inoperative, the other provisions not so declared shall remain in force and effect.

SEC. 14. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,