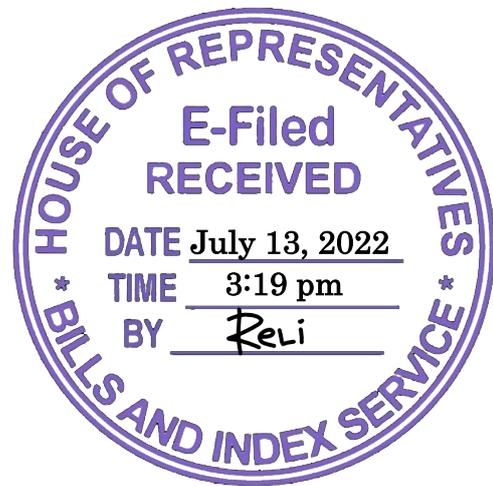




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1904



Introduced by Representative **SOLOMON R. CHUNGALAO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This legislative measure was originally filed as House Bill No. 10519 in the 18th Congress. It was approved by the House on December 13, 2021 and was also approved in the Senate Committee Hearing on March 22, 2022.

This bill is filed to address the cries and pleas of the people of Ifugao as a province and those in the eastern border of Mt. Province. It would also address the needs of those from the province of Kalinga and Apayao for decent medical facilities without tribal and ethnic discriminations. Furthermore, Ifugao is the home of the famous rice terraces with four (4) UNESCO heritage sites. One of the essential requirements for a meaningful and doable tourism industry is the establishment and presence of a decent medical facility to address the needs of foreign and local tourists in the area.

Ifugao's population was recorded at 191,000 in the 2010 Census of Population and Housing, and was projected to double by 2050. By 2015 our population had already increased by over 10,000, recorded at 202,802. Of Ifugao's eleven municipalities, Alfonso Lista's recorded population was the largest (at 14.9%), followed by Lamut (12.1%), Banaue (11.7%), Aginaldo (9.7%), Lagawe (9.5%), Mayaoyao (8.6%), Kiangnan (8.3%), Asipulo (7.5%), Tinoc (7.4%), Hungduan

(5.2%), and Hingyon (5.1%). As Ifugao is a popular tourist destination, this population is often augmented by thousands of outsiders. An estimated 250,000 foreign as well as local tourists and visitors come to the province each year.

Yet despite the growing population and volume of visitors received by our province every year, it is an acknowledged reality that provincial health facilities are unable to meet their needs. It is a common experience for residents of Ifugao and tourists to have to go out of the province in order to receive adequate health care, often to Bauko in the Mountain Province or Solano in Nueva Vizcaya. In the interest of providing more Ifugaos, as well as the neighboring eastern borders of Mt. Province, Province of Kalinga, and Province of Apayao, and foreign and local tourists, with easier access to adequate health care, this bill proposes for the establishment in the Municipality of Mayoyao, Province of Ifugao, a Level II general hospital to be known as the Eastern Cordillera Regional Hospital.

For the foregoing reasons, speedy passage of this measure is earnestly sought.



ATTY. SOLOMON R. CHUNGALAO



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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MAYOYAO, PROVINCE OF IFUGAO, A LEVEL II GENERAL HOSPITAL TO BE KNOWN AS THE EASTERN CORDILLERA REGIONAL 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 in the Municipality of Mayoyao, Province of Ifugao, a level II general hospital to be known as the Eastern Cordillera Regional Hospital, which shall be under the direct control and supervision of the Department of Health (DOH).

SEC. 2. Any further increase in bed capacity, healthcare facilities, service capability, and human resource complement shall be based on the hospital development plan that shall be prepared by the DOH.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Health shall immediately include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 4. All laws, executive orders, issuances and rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,