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

19th Congress

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2740**

Introduced by Representative **ALLEN JESSE C. MANGAOANG**

**AN ACT CONVERTING THE KALINGA PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL IN THE CITY OF TABUK, PROVINCE OF KALINGA INTO A LEVEL III REGIONAL HOSPITAL, TO BE KNOWN AS THE NORTHERN CORDILLERA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**SECTION 1.** The Kalinga Provincial Hospital in the City of Tabuk, Province of Kalinga is hereby converted into a Level III Regional Hospital to be known as the Northern Cordillera Regional Medical Center (NCRMC), and shall be under the direct supervision and control of the Department of Health (DOH). Any future increase in bed capacity shall be consistent with the hospital development plan which shall be prepared by the DOH.

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

**SEC. 3.** The existing workforce of the NCRMC, including doctors, nurses and support personnel shall be correspondingly increased to conform with Section 1 of this Act.

**SEC. 4.** The Secretary of the DOH 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.** Within ninety (90) days from the approval of this Act, the Secretary of the DOH, in consultation with the Secretary of Budget and Management, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement the Provisions of this Act.

**SEC. 6.** If any provision or part of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

**SEC.7.** All laws, decrees, executive orders, and other presidential issuance which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly

**SEC. 8.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.

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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is the declared policy of the State enshrined in the Constitution that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them. Towards this end, the State shall give primary, secondary and tertiary health services adequate, accessible and affordable to all the citizens.

The Kalinga Provincial Hospital through the years has provided affordable services to the residents of the Province of Kalinga and its neighboring provinces. It has also been the only hospital of its kind in the province that caters to the needs of the citizens, and for several years now, the hospital has more than 100% bed occupancy rate. The inadequate equipment and resources of the hospital, as well as its already undermanned workforce are further thinly spread among its numerous patients and cannot address the more specialized services for complex diseases, illnesses and injuries of its patients consisting mostly of indigents and underprivileged members of the community. Most of the patients cannot afford to go to regional and specialized hospitals in the neighboring provinces and in Metro Manila, and thus confined themselves to the meager resources of the hospital.

The conversion of the hospital to a regional hospital under the supervision of the Department of Health and accordingly upgrading its capability, facilities and personnel, as well as increasing its bed capacity, will firmly address the pressing medical needs of the people. With the passage of this bill, the Northern Cordillera Regional Medical Center will be able to provide a more integrated, comprehensive, accessible and effective quality health care and services not only to the Province of Kalinga but also to its neighboring Provinces of Isabela, Apayao, Ifugao, Mountain Province and Abra.

Hence, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought for.

**ALLEN JESSE C. MANGAOANG**