

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 6362



Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE LORDAN G. SUAN

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippine Constitution clearly stipulates that the state shall protect and promote the right of the people to health. It mandates an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development to make services available to all, at an affordable cost. Further, the Constitution guarantees that the needs of the under-privileged, sick, elderly, differently abled, women, and children shall be given priority. These are necessary, to ensure the prosperity of our nation, raise the standard of living of our people and improve their quality of life.

There are two factors that hampers the delivery of health services in this country: limited health facilities and human resources, and uneven distribution of limited health facilities and human resources. Here's the data from the Department of Health. There is a ratio of 3.4 doctors for every 10,000 Filipinos. This is way below the standard set by the World Health Organization which is 10 doctors for every 10,000 population. When it comes to human resources for health, 16.3 personnel for 10,000 Filipinos, way below the standard of 44.5.

For the Philippine health system, the 2021 DOH data shows that we have 1,383 hospitals, 462 are government-run and 921 are privately-owned. The highest concentration of these public and private hospitals are in Luzon and in highly-urbanized cities in Central Visayas.

Our specialty hospitals like the Philippine Heart Center, Lung Center of the Philippines, the National Kidney and Transplant Institute and the Philippine Children's Medical Center are all in Quezon City, Metro Manila. Just imagine the ordeal of a person from Mindanao, needing immediate cardiovascular attention only to be told to wait for days or even months before being attended to. We are not blind to the reality that fellow Filipinos are queuing during wee hours or for days at the National Kidney and Transplant Institute just to get renal care. Suffering children from far flung provinces and regions are brought to the Philippine Children's Medical Center to avail its affordable and first rate medical services. What we see are those who come to our offices asking for help and those waiting in line not knowing if they can get the needed medical attention in time, but there are those who opt to stay at home and wait for their fate because they don't have the means to go to these hospitals. Most of these patients are financially-challenged.

For these reasons, I earnestly urge my colleagues to pass this bill on the establishment of the Philippine Heart Center for Mindanao as an initial act in establishing similar specialty hospitals in other regions.



HON. LORDAN G. SUAN

1st District

Cagayan de Oro City

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

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER IN THE CITY OF CAGAYAN DE ORO, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL, TO BE KNOWN AS PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER – MINDANAO, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

SECTION 1. There shall be established a Philippine Heart Center in the City of Cagayan de Oro, Province of Misamis Oriental to be known as Philippine Heart Center – Mindanao to be managed and operated pursuant to the provisions of Presidential Decree No. 673, S. 1975. It shall be the primary specialty government health care facility providing comprehensive cardiovascular care accessible and responsive to the needs of the people of Mindanao, especially to the poor and indigent patients.

SECTION 2. The sum of Five Hundred Million Pesos (500,000,000.00) shall be released from the National Treasury and is hereby appropriated to be used for land acquisition, construction of the facility, purchase of equipment and fixtures, and personal services. *Provided,* that other expenses necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged from the current year's budget of the Philippine Heart Center. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 3. The establishment of the Philippine Heart Center – Mindanao shall be completed within a period of five (5) years from effectivity of this Act.

Section 4. The Board of Trustees of the Philippine Heart Center and the Department of Health shall formulate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act, within sixty (60) days from its effectivity.

Section 5. If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the provisions not hereby affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 6. All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof, inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act are repealed, amended or modified, accordingly.

Section 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,