

Republic of the Philippines
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
BANGSAMORO TRANSITION AUTHORITY
Cotabato City

Third Regular Session

BTA Bill No. 128

Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
Parliament
BILLS AND INDEX DIVISION
RECEIVED
Name: NORMITA BULIG
Date: 09/20/2021
Signature: [Signature]
Time: 9:09 AM

Introduced by **MP AMILBAHAR S. MAWALLIL**
Co-authored by **MPs ATTY. LAISA MASUHUD ALAMIA, ENGR. BANTAN A. AMPATUAN, ENGR. DON MUSTAPHA A. LOONG, ATTY. RASOL Y. MITMUG, JR., ATTY. SUHARTO M. AMBOLODITO, ABRAHAM T. BURAHAN, SITIE SHAHARA "DIMPLE" I. MASTURA**

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A LEVEL I GENERAL HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF
SITANGKAI, PROVINCE OF TAWI-TAWI, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 15, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution declares that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people, and instill health consciousness among them. Furthermore, Section 11, Article XIII declares that the State shall adopt an integrated, and comprehensive approach to health development that shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost.

Likewise, Section 22, Article IX of the Bangsamoro Organic Law provides for the Bangsamoro Government to adopt a policy on health that provides for a comprehensive and integrated health service delivery for its constituents. In consonance with this policy, it is the mandate of the Bangsamoro Government to establish by law a general hospital system to serve the health requirements of its people, and ensure that the individual basic right to life shall be attainable through the prompt intervention of excellent and affordable medical services.

Pursuant to the aforementioned mandate, this bill proposes to establish a level I general hospital with fifty (50) beds in the Municipality of Sitangkai, Province of Tawi-Tawi. It normally takes about eight hours to travel from Sitangkai to reach Bongao, the capital town of Tawi Tawi, where the most accessible hospital – Datu Halun Sakilan Memorial Hospital is located. Patients from this 1st class municipality of Sitangkai have had to endure long sea journeys just to ensure their kin who are sick can get admitted into the hospital, or just to get a check-up. This burden on the people of Sitangkai must be eased.

Sitangkai is one of the most populated island municipalities in Tawi-Tawi. It is the southernmost part of the Philippines, and is very close to Malaysia and Indonesia. Providing medical services should be a priority for the Bangsamoro region – especially in Sitangkai.

The proponent of this measure seeks to have a general hospital created in this area to address the gaps in access to health care, and to bring medical services closer to the people who live in Sitangkai.

With this, the approval of this measure is earnestly sought.

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THEREFOR

Section 1. There is hereby established a Level I general hospital with fifty (50) bed capacity in the Municipality of Sitangkai, Province of Tawi-Tawi, under the direct administrative and technical supervision of the Tawi-Tawi Integrated Provincial Health Office (IPHO).

Section 2. The BARMM Ministry of Health (MOH) shall formulate the necessary guidelines for its operations as a level I hospital and ensure funding for the construction of the hospital building and other complementary infrastructure, facilities, and medical equipment, as well as the costs for the necessary maintenance and personnel services.

Section 3. The Chief of Hospital of Sitangkai General Hospital, in consultation and coordination with the Tawi-Tawi IPHO, shall submit to the MOH an annual development plan to reflect the developmental goals of the hospital every year. The medical personnel, capital outlays and budgetary needs for the operation of Sitangkai General Hospital shall be based on the annual hospital development plan.

Any future increase in bed capacity and upgrading of health care services and facility shall be consistent with the annual hospital development plan.

Section 4. The provisions of this Act are hereby declared separable, and in the event one or more such provisions or part thereof are declared unconstitutional, such declaration of unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity of the other provisions thereof.

Section 5. All regional laws, acts, decrees, executive orders, proclamations and/or administrative regulations which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby amended, modified, superseded or repealed accordingly.

Section 6. This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of regional or national circulation.

Adopted,

AUTHOR:



HON. AMILBAHAR S. MAWALLIL

Member of the Parliament

Certified correct:

PROF. RABY B. ANGKAL

Secretary General

Attested by:

HON. PANGALIAN M. BALINDONG

Speaker