



Republic of the Philippines
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
BANGSAMORO TRANSITION AUTHORITY
OFFICE OF MP EDDIE MAPAG ALIH



EXPLANATORY NOTE

Sibutu is a municipality in the province of Tawi-Tawi with a land area of 109 square kilometers and a population of approximately 34,243 who are mostly boat builders and seaweed farmers. It lies about 14 k.m. east of the coast of Sabah, Malaysia. The municipality was created out of Sitangkai, Tawi-Tawi, by virtue of Muslim Mindanao Autonomy Act No. 197, which was subsequently ratified in a plebiscite held on October 21, 2006. It has a poverty incidence of 26.26% per Philippine Statistics Authority. The only hospital in the municipality is Datu Alawaddin T. Bandon, Sr. Municipal Hospital which is a level I hospital with ten bed capacity. The management of the hospital reported that the average bed occupancy rate was 95.89% in 2019; 85.44% in 2020; and 73% in 2021; and the existing facilities are gravely not up to standards and needs of its people. The next closest medical facility is the Datu Sakilan Memorial Hospital in the Municipality of Bongao which is around 51.7 kilometers. Their only mode of transportation to Bongao is by motor launch scheduled three times a week. In case of serious medical emergency, our constituents in that remote area not only have to wait for a scheduled trip to Bongao, but would also have to endure the distress and perils of traveling by sea for 3 hours. Since Datu Sakilan Memorial Hospital is also a level I hospital with bed occupancy rate of 150 to 200 percent, in most cases, they would have to travel to Zamboanga City for proper medical attention. This has caused tremendous hardships and numerous fatalities for the people of those islands.

Section 8, Article IX of the Bangsamoro Organic Law states that “the Bangsamoro Government shall provide, maintain, and ensure the delivery of basic and responsive health programs... to the Bangsamoro people and other inhabitants of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region.” Section 22, Article IX of the same law further enunciates that “the Bangsamoro Government shall adopt a policy on health that provides for a comprehensive and integrated health service delivery for its constituents. It shall establish by law a general hospital system to serve the health requirements of its people and ensure that the individual's basic right to life shall be attainable through the prompt intervention of excellent and affordable medical services.”

Therefore, it is incumbent upon the Bangsamoro Government as part of its core mandate to afford the people of Sibutu quality medical facilities and services by upgrading the only hospital in that municipality from level I of ten bed capacity to level II of 50 bed capacity.



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BTA Parliament Bill No. 166



Introduced by Members of Parliament:

**EDDIE MAPAG ALIH, MOHAGHER MOHAMMAD IQBAL, MOHAMMAD S. YACOB,
HARON M. ABAS, IBRAHIM D. ALI, ABDULLAH B. HASHIM, AL-SYED A. SALI
NABIL A. TAN, JOSE I. LORENA, SAFFRULLAH M. DIPATUAN,
ZUL QARNEYN M. ABAS, BAINON G. KARON, MAISARA C. DANDAMUN-LATIPH,
MUJIB C. ABU, MALEIHA B. CANDAO, DIAMILA D. RAMOS, SUSANA SALVADOR ANAYATIN,
PAISALIN P. TAGO, SAHIE S. UDJAH, ADZ FAR H. USMAN, NARCISO CO YU EKEY,
ALZAD T. SATTAR, ABRAHAM T. BURAHAN, ZESAR H. ALIL, MUSLIMIN A. JAKILAN, FAIZ S.
ALAUDDIN, SAID M. SHIEK, SAID Z. SALENDAB, ABDULLAH E. GAYAK, and MALIK A.
MANTAWIL**

Be it enacted by the Bangsamoro Transition Authority in Parliament assembled:

“AN ACT UPGRADING THE DATU ALAWADDIN T. BANDON, SR. MEMORIAL HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SIBUTU, PROVINCE OF TAWI-TAWI FROM ITS PRESENT LEVEL I OF TEN (10) BED CAPACITY TO LEVEL II GENERAL HOSPITAL OF FIFTY (50) BED CAPACITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

SECTION 1. *Creation.* – The Datu Alawaddin T. Bandon Sr. Municipal Hospital was created by Republic Act No. 6853 establishing a ten (10) bed municipal hospital in the Municipality of Sitangkai, Province of Tawi-Tawi on February 24, 1990.

SECTION 2. *Change of Name and Location.* – The name “Datu Alawaddin T. Bandon Sr. Municipal Hospital”, as stated in Republic Act No. 6853, is hereby changed to “Datu Alawaddin T. Bandon, Sr. Memorial Hospital”, as it is publicly known due to the signage used in the building since its establishment. This is to reconcile the official name with public familiarity.

Republic Act No. 6853 provides that the hospital is located in the Municipality of Sitangkai. However, by virtue of Muslim Mindanao Act 197, the Municipality of Sibutu was created out of the Municipality of Sitangkai with the hospital now being actually located in the former. Hence, the location of the hospital is hereby amended to that of the Municipality of Sibutu.

SECTION 3. **Upgrading of the Hospital.** - The upgrading of the Datu Alawaddin T. Bandon, Sr. Memorial Hospital from its existing ten (10) bed capacity municipal hospital to a Level II general hospital with fifty (50) bed capacity shall be consistent with the prescribed standards set by the Ministry of Health (MOH) of the Bangsamoro Government. It shall integrate into its system of operations and services the relevant provisions of Republic Act No. 11223, otherwise known as the Universal Health Care Act.

SECTION 4. **Services.** The existing health service facilities and professional manpower of the Datu Alawaddin T. Bandon, Sr. Memorial Hospital are hereby upgraded and increased to conform with the standards of Level II general hospital and to ensure that the operating systems of the hospital keep up with the advancement in science and technology.

The information system of the hospital shall be streamlined to create a complete patients' information in a simplified and easily comprehensible format. It can sync and share the inputs of doctors and authorized personnel among departments and offices seamlessly, generating clear and instantaneous communication. This will help the doctors and other medical personnel to confidently do their job and serve the patients better.

SECTION 5. **Organization; Administrative Supervision.** – The MOH, in coordination with the Ministry of Finance, Budget and Management (MFBM) shall determine and approve its appropriate organizational structure and plantilla positions to meet the prescribed standards of the upgraded level of the hospital. It shall supervise and monitor the administration and management of the hospital.

SECTION 6. **Appropriations.** – The initial amount of two hundred million pesos (Php 200,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated from the available funds of the Bangsamoro Government necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act. Thereafter, the amount necessary for its Personal Services, maintenance and other operating expenses shall be included in the annual Bangsamoro General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 7. **Separability Clause.** – If any provision or part of this act is declared invalid, the remaining provisions or parts not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 8. **Repealing Clause.** – All regional laws, executive orders, issuances, rules, and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. **Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of regional circulation.

Approved,