

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

Republic of the Philippines
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
Bangsamoro Transition Authority Parliament
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL
RECEIVED

Second Regular Session

By: SAMERA M. TALIB

Date: 03-23-21

Signature: 

Time: 11:33 AM

BTA Bill No. 90

Introduced by **MP ATTY. NABIL A. TAN, MP AMILBAHAR S. MAWALLIL,
MP ATTY. JOSÉ I. LORENA, MP ATTY. OMAR YASSER C. SEMA,
MP KHADAFEH G. MANGUDADATU, MP ATTY. PAISALIN P. TAGO
SPEAKER ATTY. ALI PANGALIAN M. BALINDONG**

**AN ACT
UPGRADING THE SULU PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL INTO A LEVEL II HOSPITAL,
INCREASING ITS BED CAPACITY, UPGRADING ITS PROFESSIONAL HEALTH
CARE SERVICES AND FACILITIES, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS
MEDICAL PERSONNEL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Established in November 5, 1916, the Sulu Provincial Hospital is the main referral center with patients coming from all 19 municipalities in Sulu catering to more than 900,000 people. The century-old provincial hospital began with 30 hospital beds and after several decades was augmented to merely 100 beds despite the significant increase in population and demand. To highlight its importance, before the COVID-19 pandemic, the 5-year average bed occupancy rate of the Sulu Provincial Hospital was at a staggering 121%.

However, pursuant to the 2013 Department of Health (DOH) Classification of Hospitals, there is no Level 1 Hospital with a 100-bed capacity. According to the DOH guidelines, a hospital with a 100-bed capacity should be classified as a Level II Hospital. Hence, the Sulu Provincial Hospital is severely under-staffed because of the lack of a significant number of plantilla positions which are only accorded for Level II Hospitals.

In addition, as a Level I Hospital, the Sulu Provincial Hospital does not have a provision for intensive management of patients needing critical care. Patients needing Intensive Care Unit (ICU) admissions are only treated in the wards, which makes it difficult for the hospital staff to provide the required care for such patients – and have sufficient resources – they cannot offer more than what is authorized. More importantly, the inadequacy can lead to poor patient outcomes.

Lastly, there is only one Level II Hospital in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region – the Maguindanao Provincial Hospital, which is distant from those residing in the BARMM Island Provinces.

Section 22, Article IX of the Bangsamoro Organic Law mandates the Bangsamoro Government to adopt a policy on health that provides for a comprehensive and integrated health service delivery for its constituents. It requires the enactment of legislation of 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.

The Organic Law further directs the protection and promotion of the right to health of the people, upholding their right to have access to essential goods, health, and other social services that promote their well-being.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

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Section 1. The Sulu Provincial Hospital is hereby converted into a Level II Hospital, under the direct supervision and control of the Ministry of Health (MOH), Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

The authorized bed capacity of the provincial hospital is hereby increased from one hundred (100) to two hundred (200) beds.

Section 2. The existing service facilities and other services of the hospital are hereby upgraded to conform with the bed capacity increase as provided for in Section 1 hereof.

The existing medical personnel shall also be correspondingly increased. The Ministry of Health, in coordination with the Ministry of Finance, Budget and Management and the Civil Service Commission, shall determine the additional plantilla positions to be created and filled up in coordination with the management of the Sulu Provincial Hospital.

Section 3. The Bangsamoro Autonomous Government shall provide the necessary funds to support the increase in bed capacity of the Sulu Provincial Hospital and the corresponding upgrading of its facilities and services.

The Minister of the Ministry of Health (MOH), in consultation with the management of the Sulu Provincial Hospital, shall issue orders, rules and circulars as may be necessary to carry out the implementation of this Act. The Minister of the MOH shall immediately include in the Ministry's programs the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the General Appropriations Act.

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.

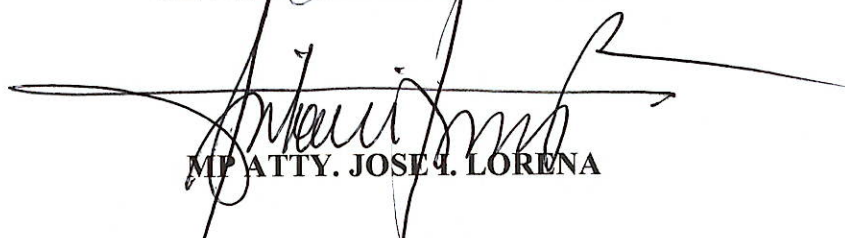
Section 6. This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of regional or national circulation.

APPROVED _____.

AUTHORS:


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Maguindanao Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
Office of the Parliament Speaker
RELEASED
BY: 
DATE: March 25, 2021
TIME: 11:20 AM