

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

23 APR 26 P3:16

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

S.B. No. 2104

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Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

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**AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING A FIFTY (50)-BED SATELLITE HOSPITAL OF  
THE EASTERN VISAYAS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER IN  
THE MUNICIPALITY OF CATARMAN, NORTHERN SAMAR, TO BE KNOWN  
AS THE EASTERN VISAYAS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER CATARMAN  
SATELLITE HOSPITAL APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

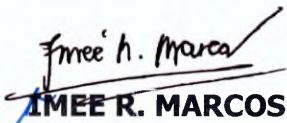
EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Philippine Constitution, under Article XIII, Section 11 provides that, *"The State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the underprivileged, sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children. The State shall endeavor to provide free medical care to paupers."*

According to the Philippine Statistics Authority, Eastern Visayas is among the poorest regions in the country in year 2021. This denotes that about 22 in every 100 families in the region were poor or have income that were below the poverty threshold, or the amount needed to buy their basic food and non-food needs. Along with poverty, it contends with lack of infrastructure and social services, including hospitals.

Hence, this bill seeks to establish a satellite hospital under the Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center (EVRMC) to be located in the Municipality of Catarman, Northern Samar. This will effectively help close the gap in the region's hospital bed capacity as well as ensure wider access to affordable and quality healthcare services particularly in Northern Samar.


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

  
**IMEE R. MARCOS**

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

1           **SECTION 1.** A fifty (50)-bed satellite hospital of the Eastern Visayas Regional  
2 Medical Center shall be established in the Municipality of Catarman, Northern Samar,  
3 to be known as the Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center-Catarman.  
4

5           **SEC. 2.** The Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center-Catarman shall be under  
6 direct administrative and technical supervision of the Department of Health (DOH).  
7

8           **SEC. 3.** The DOH shall formulate the necessary guidelines or rules and  
9 regulations for its operation as a Level 2 hospital. The DOH shall ensure funding for the  
10 acquisition of the land on which the hospital will be established, the construction of the  
11 hospital buildings and other complementary infrastructure, facilities and medical  
12 equipment, as well as for the costs of the necessary maintenance and personnel  
13 services.  
14

15           **SEC. 4.** The Secretary of Health shall immediately include in the Department's  
16 programs the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the  
17 annual General Appropriations Act.  
18

19           **SEC. 5.** The Secretary of Health, in coordination with the Secretary of the DBM  
20 and the Commissioner of the CSC shall, within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of

1 this Act, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for its effective  
2 implementation.

3  
4 **SEC. 6.** If any provisions or part of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the  
5 remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

6  
7 **SEC. 7.** All other laws, decrees, executive orders, issuances, rules and  
8 regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are  
9 hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

10  
11 **SEC. 8.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in  
12 the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

13  
*Approved,*