



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session



COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1392

Submitted by the Committee on Health, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on Ways and Means on December 14, 2021

Re : House Bill No. 10629

Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 168, 440, 2728, 4691, 7676, 9777, and 9868

Sponsors : Reps. Angelina "Helen" D.L. Tan, M.D., Eric Go Yap, Joey Sarte Salceda, Strike B. Revilla, Rufus B. Rodriguez, Victor A. Yap, and Juan Miguel Macapagal-Arroyo

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Health, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on Ways and Means to which were referred House Bill No. 168 introduced by Rep. Angelina "Helen" D.L. Tan M.D., entitled:

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS HOSPITAL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

House Bill No. 440 introduced by Rep. Strike B. Revilla, entitled:

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS HOSPITAL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

House Bill No. 2728 introduced by Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez, entitled:

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS HOSPITAL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

House Bill No. 4691 introduced by Rep. Victor A. Yap, entitled:

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS HOSPITAL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

House Bill No. 7676 introduced by Rep. Juan Miguel Macapagal-Arroyo, entitled:

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS HOSPITAL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

House Bill No. 9777 introduced by Rep. Juan Miguel Macapagal-Arroyo, entitled:

AN ACT ESTABLISHING OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS (OFW) HOSPITAL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

and House Bill No. 9868 introduced by Rep. Luis Raymund "LRay" F. Villafuerte, Jr., entitled:

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL HOSPITAL FOR OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS (OFWS) AND THEIR DEPENDENTS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

have considered the same and recommend that the attached House Bill No. 10629, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS HOSPITAL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

be approved in substitution of House Bills Numbered 168, 440, 2728, 4691, and 7676, with Reps. Angelina "Helen" D.L. Tan, M.D., Strike B. Revilla, Rufus B. Rodriguez, Victor A. Yap, Juan Miguel Macapagal-Arroyo, Luis Raymund "LRay" F. Villafuerte, Jr., "Kuya" Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado, Florida "Rida" P. Robes, Estrellita B. Suansing, Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo, Dahlia A. Loyola, Ma.Lourdes T. Arroyo, Diego C. Ty, Cheryl P. Deloso-Montalla, Emmarie "Lolypop" M. Ouano-Dizon, Angelica Natasha Co, Elpidio F. Barzaga, Jr., Deogracias Victor "DV" B. Savellano, Michael T. Defensor, Edgar M. Chatto, Paul R. Daza, Ressurrecion M. Acop, J. Mayo Z. Almario, Aurelio "Dong" D. Gonzales, Jr., Stella Luz A. Quimbo, Paz C. Radaza, Wilter "Sharky" Wee Palma II, Gabriel H. Bordado, Jr., Gil A. Acosta, Jr., Eduardo R. Gullas, Ferdinand L. Hernandez, Gerardo J. Espina, Jr., Ferdinand R. Gaité, Weslie T. Gatchalian, Janice Z. Salimbangon, Irene Gay E. Saulog, David C. Suarez, Cyrille F. Abueg-Zaldivar, Leo Rafael M. Cueva, Ciriaco B. Gato, Jr., Francisco Jose F. Matugas li, John Marvin "Yul Servo" C. Nieto, Faustino Michael Carlos T. Dy III, Rogelio Neil P. Roque, John Reynald M. Tiangco, Jocelyn S. Limkaichong, Ma. Bernardita B. Ramos, Domingo C. Rivera, Eric Go Yap, Evelina G. Escudero, Kristine Singson-Meehan, Rose Marie "Baby" J. Arenas, Henry. S. Oaminal, Pablo John F. Garcia, Christopher V.P. De Venecia, Ruffy B. Biazon, Peter John D. Calderon, Luis N. Campos, Jr., Junie E. Cua, Luisa Lloren Cuaresma, Manuel Jose "Mannix" M. Dalipe, Michael John R. Duavit, Vincent Franco "Duke" D. Frasco, Greg G. Gasataya, Ruwel Peter Gonzaga, Teodorico Haresco, Jr. Romeo S. Momo, Sr., Manuel T. Sagarbarria, Jose "Pingping" I. Tejada", Micaela S. Violago, Antonio "Tonypet" T. Albano, Yasser Alonto Balindong, Alfel M. Bascug, Jose Francisco "Kiko" B. Benitez, Ph.D., Argel Joseph T. Cabatbat, Wilfredo "Willy" S. Caminero, Carl Nicolas C. Cari, Sergio C. Dagooc, Abdullah D. Dimaporo, Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo, Alan R. Dujali, Faustino "Inno" A. Dy V, Ian Paul L. Dy, Michael B. Gorriceta, Eduardo "Eddie" R. Gullas, Godofredo N. Guya, Glona G. Labadlabad, Edward Vera Perez Maceda, Maricel G. Natividad-Nagaño, Jose "Jun" L. Ong, Jr., Pablo C. Ortega, Allan Benedict S. Reyes, Geraldine B. Roman, Joy Myra S. Tambunting, Alyssa Sheena P. Tan, Lucy Torres-Gomez, Kristine Alexie B. Tutor, Samantha Louise Vargas Alfonso, Rosanna "Ria" V. Vergara, Presley C. De Jesus, Lorenz R. Defensor, Wilfrido Mark M. Enverga, Jonathan Keith T. Flores, and Mark O. Go. as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted:



HON. ERIC GO YAP
Chairperson
Committee on Appropriations



HON. ANGELINA "Helen" D.L. TAN, M.D.
Chairperson
Committee on Health



HON. JOEY SARTE SALCEDA
Chairperson
Committee on Ways and Means

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
QUEZON CITY



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10629

(In substitution of House Bills Numbered 168, 440, 2728, 4691, 7676, 9777, and 9868)

Introduced by Representatives Angelina “Helen” D.L. Tan, M.D., Strike B. Revilla, Rufus B. Rodriguez, Victor A. Yap, Juan Miguel Macapagal Arroyo, Luis Raymund “LRay” F. Villafuerte, Jr., “Kuya” Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado, Florida “Rida” P. Robes, Estrellita B. Suansing, Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo, Dahlia A. Loyola, Ma.Lourdes T. Arroyo, Diego C. Ty, Cheryl P. Deloso-Montalla, Emmarie “Lolypop” M. Ouano-Dizon, Angelica Natasha Co, Elpidio F. Barzaga, Jr., Deogracias Victor “DV” B. Savellano, Michael T. Defensor, Edgar M. Chatto, Paul R. Daza, Ressurrecion M. Acop, J. Mayo Z. Almario, Aurelio “Dong” D. Gonzales, Jr., Stella Luz A. Quimbo, Paz C. Radaza, Wilter “Sharky” Wee Palma II, Gabriel H. Bordado, Jr., Gil A. Acosta, Jr., Eduardo R. Gullas, Ferdinand L. Hernandez, Gerardo J. Espina, Jr., Ferdinand R. Gaité, Weslie T. Gatchalian, Janice Z. Salimbangon, Irene Gay E. Saulog, David C. Suarez, Cyrille F. Abueg-Zaldivar, Leo Rafael M. Cueva, Ciriaco B. Gato, Jr., Francisco Jose F. Matugas II, John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto, Faustino Michael Carlos T. Dy III, Rogelio Neil P. Roque, John Reynald M. Tiangco, Jocelyn S. Limkaichong, Ma. Bernardita B. Ramos, Domingo C. Rivera, Eric Go Yap, Evelina G. Escudero, Kristine Singson-Meehan, Rose Marie “Baby” J. Arenas, Henry. S. Oaminal, Pablo John F. Garcia, Christopher V.P. De Venecia, Ruffy B. Biazon, Peter John D. Calderon, Luis N. Campos, Jr., Junie E. Cua, Luisa Lloren Cuaresma, Manuel Jose “Mannix” M. Dalipe, Michael John R. Duavit, Vincent Franco “Duke” D. Frasco, Greg G. Gasataya, Ruwel Peter Gonzaga, Teodorico Haresco, Jr. Romeo S. Momo, Sr., Manuel T. Sagarbarria, Jose “Pingping” I. Tejada”, Micaela S. Violago, Antonio “Tonypet” T. Albano, Yasser Alonto Balindong, Alfel M. Bascug, Jose Francisco “Kiko” B. Benitez, Ph.D., Argel Joseph T. Cabatbat, Wilfredo “Willy” S. Caminero, Carl Nicolas C. Cari, Sergio C. Dagooc, Abdullah D. Dimaporo, Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo, Alan R. Dujali, Faustino “Inno” A. Dy V, Ian Paul L. Dy, Michael B. Gorriceta, Eduardo “Eddie” R. Gullas, Godofredo N. Guya, Glona G. Labadlabad, Edward Vera Perez Maceda, Maricel G. Natividad-Nagaño, Jose “Jun” L. Ong, Jr., Pablo C. Ortega, Allan Benedict S. Reyes, Geraldine B. Roman, Joy Myra S. Tambunting, Alyssa Sheena P. Tan, Lucy Torres-Gomez, Kristine Alexie B. Tutor, Samantha Louise Vargas Alfonso, Rosanna “Ria” V. Vergara, Presley C. De Jesus, Lorenz R. Defensor, Wilfrido Mark M. Enverga, Jonathan Keith T. Flores, and Mark O. Go.

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS HOSPITAL AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** - This Act shall be known as the “Overseas Filipino
2 Workers (OFW) Hospital Act or OFW Hospital Act.”
3

4 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the policy of the State to protect and promote
5 the right to health of the Filipino people and to instill health consciousness among them.
6 The State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health
7 development. Further, the State shall protect the interest and promote the well-being of
8 overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) in recognition of their importance and contribution to
9 economic development and nation building.
10

11
12 **SEC. 3. Establishment of OFW Hospital.** – There shall be established a hospital
13 with at least tertiary level of care to be known as “OFW Hospital”, hereinafter referred to
14 as the Hospital. The Hospital shall be developed consistent with the health care needs
15 of the OFWs and their dependents. The Hospital shall be under the full administrative
16 and technical supervision of the Department of Health (DOH).
17

18 The DOH shall prepare a development plan to reflect the goals of the Hospital.
19

20 **SEC. 4. Objectives.** – To ensure the availability, accessibility and affordability of
21 quality health care, the Hospital shall have the following main objectives:
22

23 (a) Provide comprehensive and total health care services to all migrant workers
24 including Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) contributors, whether
25 active or non-active, and their legal dependents;
26

27 (b) Conduct medical examinations to ensure the physical and mental capability of
28 would-be overseas contract workers duly covered by an approved job order;
29

30 (c) Serve as primary referral hospital for repatriated OFW needing medical
31 assistance and support;
32

33 (d) Set up systems that will effectively monitor condition of patients and to
34 generate relevant health information and data for policy formulation; and
35

36 (e) Participate in the health care provider networks and arrangements relative to
37 the implementation of Republic Act No. 11223, or the “Universal Health Care Act.”
38

39 **SEC. 5. Medical Assistance.** – The Secretary of the Department of Labor and
40 Employment (DOLE), as Chairperson of the OWWA Board, shall ensure that existing
41 health benefits and medical assistance programs are strengthened to include subsidies
42 on hospitalization and medical procedures for OFW and qualified dependents.

1
2 **SEC. 6. *Joint Executive Oversight Committee.*** – There is hereby created a Joint
3 Executive Oversight Committee to review the implementation of this Act and hospital
4 development plans for the OFW Hospital.
5

6 The Committee shall be co-chaired by the Secretary of Health and the Secretary
7 of Labor and Employment. It shall be composed of seven (7) members including its co-
8 chairpersons. The members shall be appointed by the Secretary of Health upon
9 consultation with the Secretary of Labor and Employment.
10

11 **SEC. 7. *Tax Exemption.*** – All grants, bequests, endowments, donations and
12 contributions made to the OFW Hospital to be used actually, directly and exclusively by
13 the OFW Hospital shall be exempt from donor’s tax and the same shall be considered
14 as allowable deduction from the gross income of the donor, in accordance with the
15 provisions of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended.
16

17 The importation of equipment, machinery and spare parts which are used solely
18 and exclusively for the operation of the OFW Hospital and are not available locally shall
19 be exempt from value-added tax and customs duty.
20

21 **SEC. 8. *Appropriations.*** – The Secretary of Health shall include in the
22 Department’s program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be
23 included in the annual General Appropriations Act. The OWWA shall also include in its
24 benefits and medical assistance programs for OFW the line item budget necessary to
25 improve the access of OFWs and dependents to health care services.
26

27 **SEC. 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within sixty (60) days from the
28 approval of this Act, the DOH, in coordination with DOLE, OWWA, Philippine Overseas
29 Employment Administration (POEA) and other stakeholders, shall promulgate the
30 implementing rules and regulations (IRR) to carry out the provisions of this Act.
31

32 **SEC. 10. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or
33 unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other
34 provisions hereof.
35

36 **SEC. 11. *Repealing Clause.*** – All other laws, decrees, executive orders, and
37 rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are
38 hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
39

40 **SEC. 12. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
41 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

**HOUSE BILL NO. 10629
FACT SHEET**

House Bills Numbered 168, 440, 2728, 4691, 7676, 9777, and 9868

(As approved by the Committee on August 14, 2019)

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS
HOSPITAL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

Introduced by Reps. Angelina “Helen” D.L. Tan, M.D., Strike B. Revilla, Rufus B. Rodriguez, Victor A. Yap, Juan Miguel Macapagal-Arroyo, Luis Raymund “LRay” F. Villafuerte, Jr., “Kuya” Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado, Florida “Rida” P. Robes, Estrellita B. Suansing, Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo, Dahlia A. Loyola, Ma.Lourdes T. Arroyo, Diego C. Ty, Cheryl P. Deloso-Montalla, Emmarie “Lolypop” M. Ouano-Dizon, Angelica Natasha Co, Elpidio F. Barzaga, Jr., Deogracias Victor “DV” B. Savellano, Michael T. Defensor, Edgar M. Chatto, Paul R. Daza, Ressurrecion M. Acop, J. Mayo Z. Almario, Aurelio “Dong” D. Gonzales, Jr., Stella Luz A. Quimbo, Paz C. Radaza, Wilter “Sharky” Wee Palma II, Gabriel H. Bordado, Jr., Gil A. Acosta, Jr., Eduardo R. Gullas, Ferdinand L. Hernandez, Gerardo J. Espina, Jr., Ferdinand R. Gaité, Weslie T. Gatchalian, Janice Z. Salimbangon, Irene Gay E. Saulog, David C. Suarez, Cyrille F. Abueg-Zaldivar, Leo Rafael M. Cueva, Ciriaco B. Gato, Jr., Francisco Jose F. Matugas II, John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto, Faustino Michael Carlos T. Dy III, Rogelio Neil P. Roque, John Reynald M. Tiangco, Jocelyn S. Limkaichong, Ma. Bernardita B. Ramos, Domingo C. Rivera, Eric Go Yap, Evelina G. Escudero, Kristine Singson-Meehan, Rose Marie “Baby” J. Arenas, Henry. S. Oaminal, Pablo John F. Garcia, Christopher V.P. De Venecia, Ruffy B. Biazon, Peter John D. Calderon, Luis N. Campos, Jr., Junie E. Cua, Luisa Lloren Cuaresma, Manuel Jose “Mannix” M. Dalipe, Michael John R. Duavit, Vincent Franco “Duke” D. Frasco, Greg G. Gasataya, Ruwel Peter Gonzaga, Teodorico Haresco, Jr. Romeo S. Momo, Sr., Manuel T. Sagarbarria, Jose “Pingping” I. Tejada”, Micaela S. Violago, Antonio “Tonypet” T. Albano, Yasser Alonto Balindong, Alfel M. Bascug, Jose Francisco “Kiko” B. Benitez, Ph.D., Argel Joseph T. Cabatbat, Wilfredo “Willy” S. Caminero, Carl Nicolas C. Cari, Sergio C. Dagooc, Abdullah D. Dimaporo, Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo, Alan R. Dujali, Faustino “Inno” A. Dy V, Ian Paul L. Dy, Michael B. Gorriceta, Eduardo “Eddie” R. Gullas, Godofredo N. Guya, Glona G. Labadlabad, Edward Vera Perez Maceda, Maricel G. Natividad-Nagaño, Jose “Jun” L. Ong, Jr., Pablo C. Ortega, Allan Benedict S. Reyes, Geraldine B. Roman, Joy Myra S. Tambunting, Alyssa Sheena P. Tan, Lucy Torres-Gomez, Kristine Alexie B. Tutor, Samantha Louise Vargas Alfonso, Rosanna “Ria” V. Vergara, Presley C. De Jesus, Lorenz R. Defensor, Wilfrido Mark M. Enverga, Jonathan Keith T. Flores, and Mark O. Go.

Committee Referral: **COMMITTEE ON HEALTH (Primary)**
Committee Chairperson: **REP. ANGELINA "HELEN" D.L. TAN, M.D.**
Committee Referral: **COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS (Secondary)**
Committee Chairperson: **REP. ISIDRO T. UNGAB**
Committee Referral: **COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS (Tertiary)**
Committee Chairperson: **REP. JOEY S. SALCEDA**

OBJECTIVES:

- To provide comprehensive and total health care services to all migrant workers including Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) contributors, whether active or non-active, and their legal dependents
- To serve as primary referral hospital for repatriated Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW) needing medical assistance and support

KEY PROVISIONS:

- Establishes a hospital with a tertiary level of care consistent with the health care needs of the OFW and their dependents under the full administrative and technical supervision of the Department of Health (DOH)
- Mandates the Secretary of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), as Chairperson of the OWWA Board to ensure that existing health benefits and medical assistance programs are strengthened
- Creates a Joint Executive Oversight Committee on OFW Hospital to be co-chaired by the Secretaries of the DOH and DOLE to review and recommend hospital development plans and ensure implementation of this Act
- Provides exemption from donor's tax, value-added tax and customs duty for imported equipment, machineries and spare parts
- Appropriates the necessary funding for the implementation of this Act

RELATED LAWS:

- Republic Act No. 10022 – Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos Act of 1995, as Amended
- Republic Act 8042 – Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos Act of 1995