

Solon eyes QCGH upgrade to medical center status

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A NEWLY installed Quezon City congressman hit the ground running as he filed six bills on the first few days of his term, one of which seeks the doubling of the bed capacity of a government hospital in his district.

Quezon City Rep. Arjo Atayde proposed an increase in the bed capacity of the Quezon City General Hospital from 250 to 500 in addition to upgrading it into a medical center.

“The Covid-19 pandemic has underscored the extent of the need for hospitals and other health facilities to safeguard our well-being. It is very important to upgrade the QCGH to ensure that it can serve more people from the city and nearby areas,” Atayde said.

Aside from the increase in bed capacity, the neophyte lawmaker’s House Bill 458 also provides for the increase and modernization of the QCGH’s facilities. The measure also mandates the renaming the facility as the Quezon City General Hospital and Medical Center (QCGHMC).

The bed capacity of all government hospitals in Quezon City is less than 6,000, which Atayde said is “a paltry figure considering the city has a population of 2.9 million as of 2020.”

“While doubling the bed capacity of the QCGH will not greatly improve the bed capacity to population ratio, it will be a significant step in the right direction and it will enable QCGH to provide quality health services to many of our countrymen who are not able to afford to go to private hospitals,” he said in his bill’s explanatory note.