

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 501



Introduced by Hon. Arthur "Dodo" Y. Pingoy, Jr., M.D.

Explanatory Note

Barangay day care centers are highly regarded as vital and indispensable cogs in the implementation of children's programs, ranging from health and nutrition programs to education and developmental pursuits.

However, since 1990, the year when such centers were institutionalized by the government in every barangay, the workers assigned at these places and tasked to render services for our children remain as one of those underpaid and underprivileged groups among other public servants in our bureaucracy. Like the barangay health workers, they are either at the end of the receiving line of possible benefits that may be granted by the local government unit (LGU) that has jurisdiction over them or worse, never considered at all.

It is the author's strong belief that the State must now augment the benefits that are long over due for this class of government employees who continue to display a serious commitment and who are at the forefront in the education and protection of our children despite the very meager support that is given them.

Hence, in recognition of their invaluable services and to give justice to their concerns, this measure is being proposed. This will help ameliorate their living conditions especially at these times of worsening impoverishment and continued economic slump.

May it be stressed that the day care workers, like the barangay health workers, have lived up to the very essence of selfless commitment to our nation. Such dedication to the ideals of public service certainly deserves a genuine and vigorous concern for their well-being.

The expeditious passage of this bill is, thus, earnestly sought.


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AN ACT
GRANTING COMPULSORY COVERAGE TO BARANGAY DAY CARE WORKERS
IN THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM, AMENDING FOR THIS
PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6972 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1.—Section 6 of Republic Act No. 6972 is hereby amended by adding a new provision which shall read as follows:

f) *PHILHEALTH Compulsory Coverage*—All barangay day care center workers and their dependents shall be enrolled in the National Health Insurance Program for them to receive and avail of an adequate package of personal health services that must include in-patient hospital care, out-patient care, emergency and transfer services, and also other supplementary health benefits as may be defined by the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHIC) and the local government unit (LGU) where they render services.

The needed premium contributions and thereafter, the standard monthly contributions, shall be borne equally by the national government and the LGU concerned, such that upon the passage of this Act, the barangay day care center workers and their dependents are automatically entitled to the full enjoyment and availment of essential health services as contained in the National Health Insurance Act (R.A. 7875). Such cost-sharing scheme may be revised which may be made contingent on the LGU's financial capability to shoulder the overall cost of this program: *Provided*, that the national government's share will not exceed fifty percent (50%) of the needed cost.

No monthly contributions and any other fee or charges shall be collected from them to be entitled with the program's benefits.

SEC. 2. Oversight Provision.—Congress shall conduct a regular review of this program which shall primarily evaluate its implementation with regard to its impact and accomplishments. Such review shall be jointly undertaken by the committees in the Senate and House of Representatives which have legislative jurisdiction over this program.

SEC. 3. Government Guarantee.—The Government of the Republic of the Philippines guarantees the financial viability of this program.

SEC. 4. *Rules and Regulations.*--The Department of Social Welfare & Development, Philippine Health Insurance Corporation and Department of Interior & Local Government, in coordination with the Governors, Vice-Governors and Mayors League of the Philippines, shall formulate within one hundred (100) days the necessary rules and regulations necessary to implement this Act.

SEC. 5. *Separability Clause.*--If any provision of this Act is declared invalid, the remainder or any of this provision hereof not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause.*--All laws, decrees, executive orders, presidential issuances and other administrative rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 7. *Effectivity.*--This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,