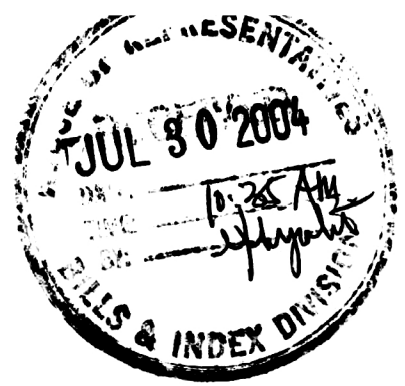


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitutional Hills, Quezon City



THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1935

Introduced by **Honorable Eleuterio R. Violago**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

"The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people xxx" (Art. II, Sec. 15, 1987 Constitution). It "shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development" and "endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost." The "needs of the under-privileged, sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children" shall be prioritized. And "The State shall endeavor to provide free medical care to paupers" (Art. XIII, Sec. 11, Ibid).

Sadly, these covenants are practiced more often in the breach.

The primary objectives of this bill are: (a) To aid in the development of a healthy and alert citizenry; (b) To ensure the efficient and effective implementation of health programs and services by local government units (LGUs); and (c) To provide the legal basis for the mandatory appropriation of money devoted to health care programs and services by LGUs.

While local development projects are important for LGUs, this representation believes that the health of those people whom development projects intend to benefit must come first in the order of battle against poverty, malnutrition, and hunger. To my mind, requiring LGUs to appropriate at least ten percent (10%) of their annual internal revenue allotment for health care programs and services would not be asking too much.

As a medical doctor for the past forty-five (45) years, my heart cries out to those who could ill afford primary health care services. And truly, local government units are in a unique and special position to remedy this malaise.


ELEUTERIO R. VIOLAGO

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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AN ACT
MANDATING LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO APPROPRIATE IN THEIR ANNUAL BUDGETS AT LEAST TEN PERCENT OF THEIR ANNUAL INTERNAL REVENUE ALLOTMENTS FOR LOCAL HEALTH PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

Section 1. Section 287 of Republic Act No. 7160, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 287. Local HEALTH AND Development Projects. - Each local government unit shall appropriate in its annual budget no less than twenty percent (20%) AND TEN PERCENT (10%) of its annual internal revenue allotment for development projects AND HEALTH PROGRAMS AND SERVICES, RESPECTIVELY. Copies of the development plans AND HEALTH PROGRAMS AND SERVICES of local government units shall be furnished the Department of THE Interior and Local Government AND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, RESPECTIVELY."

Sec. 2. The departments of Finance (DOF), Budget and Management (DBM) and Health (DOH) shall jointly issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

Sec. 3. All laws, presidential decrees, executive issuance, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, found inconsistent with this Act are hereby expressly repealed or modified accordingly.

Sec. 4. If, for any reason whatsoever, any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity of the other provisions not declared as such.

Sec. 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval and fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,