



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Fifteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 210

Introduced by Honorable Neptali M. Gonzales II

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 18, Article II of the 1987 Constitution unequivocally affirms labor as a primary social and economic force and mandates the State to protect the rights of workers and promote their welfare. Moreover, Section II, Article XIII, provides that the State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods and social services available to all the people at affordable cost.

Despite these constitutional mandates, barangay health workers are classified as among the poorest public servants and receive meager allowances for braving remote barangays, traversing inaccessible roads and even sea routes to discharge their tasks.

In recognition of their invaluable service, and for living up to the very essence of selfless service to our nation, this bill seeks to provide a compulsory coverage to accredited barangay health workers in the National Health Insurance Program.

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


NEPTALI M. GONZALES II

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AN ACT
GRANTING COMPULSORY COVERAGE TO ACCREDITED
BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS IN THE NATIONAL HEALTH
INSURANCE PROGRAM, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT 7883, 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. 7883, otherwise known as the "Barangay Health Workers" Benefits and Incentives Act of 1995," is hereby amended by adding a new subsection which shall read as follows:

"Sec. 6. Incentives and Benefits – x x x

“(G) PHILHEALTH COMPULSORY COVERAGE. –

ALL BARANGAY HEALTH 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 PREMIUM CONTRIBUTIONS AND, THEREAFTER, THE STANDARD MONTHLY CONTRIBUTIONS, SHALL BE BORNE BY THE LGU CONCERNED; SUCH THAT, UPON THE PASSAGE OF THIS ACT, THE BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS SHALL BE AUTOMATICALLY ENTITLED TO THE FULL ENJOYMENT AND AVAILMENT OF ESSENTIAL HEALTH SERVICES AS CONTAINED IN REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7875 OR THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE ACT: *PROVIDED*,

THAT THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SHALL PROVIDE SUBSIDY FOR THE PROGRAM TO FOURTH, FIFTH AND SIXTH CLASS MUNICIPALITIES: *PROVIDED, FURTHER,* THAT THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT'S SUBSIDY TO QUALIFIED LGU SHALL NOT EXCEED FIFTY PERCENT(50%) OF THE NEEDED PREMIUM COST.

“THE BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED TO PAY MONTHLY CONTRIBUTIONS AND ALL OTHER FEES OR CHARGES FOR THEM TO BE ENTITLED TO THE PROGRAM'S BENEFITS.”

SEC. 2. Congress shall conduct regular review of this program which shall be primarily evaluated on its impact and accomplishments. Such review shall be jointly undertaken by the committees in the Senate and the House of Representatives which shall have legislative jurisdiction over this program.

SEC. 3. The government of the Republic of the Philippines guarantees the financial viability of this program.

SEC. 4. The Philippine Health Insurance Corporation, in consultation and coordination with the Department of the Interior and Local

Government and the leagues of Governors, vice governors and mayors of the Philippines, shall formulate within one hundred (100) days the rules and regulations necessary to implement this Act.

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

SEC. 6. 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. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,