



House of Representatives
Fifteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 230

Introduced by **HON. HERMINIA B. ROMAN**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks free hospitalization benefits in government hospitals to all retired public school teachers who have rendered a minimum of twenty (20) years of service.

Government teachers play a significant role in nation building and in the country's socio-economic progress. They mold the youth to become responsible and productive members of society. Their sacrifices and unparalleled devotion in carrying out their duties and responsibilities as public servants should be amply rewarded and remembered even after their retirement from service.

Section 5(5), Article XIV of the Constitution, states: "*The State shall assign the highest budgetary priority to education and ensure that teaching will attract and retain its rightful share of the best available talents through adequate remuneration and other means of job satisfaction and fulfilment.*" The fundamental law has therefore placed education as a primary concern of the State to reverse the problem behind the deterioration of our educational system. Public school teachers, being a pillar of our educational system, also deserve the same concern after their arduous stint in our public educational institutions, and more so for those who have served for more than twenty (20) years.

In recognition of their long service in government and the critical role they play in society, it is appropriate and reasonable to grant them free hospitalization benefits in government hospitals. After committing their lives to public service, it is only fitting for the State to protect and promote their health, especially those who are already in their senior years. This incentive will at least ease the burden of our retired government teachers who need to cope with the ever rising cost of health care. This is particularly true for those who only have meager savings and who heavily rely on their pension after retirement. They are truly deserving of this incentive by reason of the dedication and time they spent in educating our youth and contributing to the nation's development.

In view of the above considerations, immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

Herminia B. Roman
HERMINIA B. ROMAN

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**AN ACT
GRANTING FREE HOSPITALIZATION BENEFITS IN
GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS TO ALL RETIRED PUBLIC SCHOOL
TEACHERS WHO HAVE RENDERED A MINIMUM OF TWENTY
(20) YEARS IN SERVICE AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR.**

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

SECTION 1. All retired government teachers who have rendered a minimum of twenty (20) years of service are hereby provided free hospitalization benefits in all government hospitals.

SEC. 2. The amount for the initial implementation of this Act shall be taken from the current appropriations of the Department of Health. Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary for its continued implementation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 3. Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Health shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the implementation of this Act.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,