

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1519

Introduced by **REP. AUGUSTO BOBOY SYJUCO, Ph. D.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In an effort to promote and uplift the welfare of women, this proposed measure seeks to grant free medical and hospitalization benefits to indigent Filipino women suffering from women's diseases, illness and injuries due to violence and abuses by establishing a special ward both in the provincial and district hospitals which are capable of providing major clinical services.

The provision of free medical treatment and hospitalization benefits especially to indigent women reflects the State's policy in recognizing the need for such facilities and opportunities that will enhance their welfare and enable them to realize their full potential in the service of the nation.

It is in this light that I earnestly sought the approval of this proposed measure.



AUGUSTO BOBOY SYJUCO, Ph. D.
Second District, Province of Iloilo

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AN ACT
GRANTING FREE MEDICAL AND HOSPITALIZATION BENEFITS TO INDIGENT
FILIPINO WOMEN SUFFERING FROM WOMEN'S DISEASE, ILLNESS AND
INJURIES DUE TO VIOLENCE INFLECTED ON WOMEN, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1: This Act shall be known as the 'Women's Medical and Hospitalization Benefits Act'.

SEC. 2. Free medical and hospitalization benefits shall be granted to indigent Filipino women suffering from women's disease, such as cancer of the reproductive organ, cancer of the breast and pregnancy-related diseases; illnesses and injuries due to violence inflicted on women. For this purpose, a special ward shall be established in all provincial and district hospitals.

SEC. 3. An indigent woman patient seeking to avail of the benefits herein provided shall secure a certification from the Department of Social Welfare and Development attesting that she is indigent and suffering from any of the above-mentioned diseases, illnesses or injuries. For the purpose of this Act, indigent patients shall include the unemployed and those whose monthly gross income does not exceed Five Thousand Pesos (P 5,000.00).

SEC. 4. The Department of Health, in coordination with the Department of Social Welfare and Development, shall promulgate implementing rules and regulations sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act.

SEC. 5. The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations of the Department of Health under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such amount necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual budget of the local governments concerned.

SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval

Approved.