

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

First Regular Session
FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

HOUSE BILL No. 3499

Introduced by: REPRESENTATIVE IMELDA CALIXTO-RUBIANO

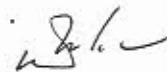
Explanatory Note

This proposed measure seeks to provide mandatory Philhealth benefits under the National Health Insurance Program (NHIP) to all incumbent barangay officials in good standing. These incumbent barangay officials will be granted automatic membership coverage under the NHIP in order for them to be accorded personal health services.

It is to be noted that our barangay officials are the frontlines of public service in our community. Their duties and responsibilities to the people and to the community as a whole are indispensable for a clean, peaceful, productive and orderly delivery of services and dispensation of justice. Being dedicated community organizers and respectable public servants, it is of paramount consideration that these barangay officials be accorded mandatory Philhealth benefits.

Many of these officials dedicate their lives to the barangay for a measly pay and yet they get nothing upon exhausting their effective years. It is in this light that the measure is being proposed to provide them such Philhealth benefits to ensure that they are not only being recompensed and rewarded for their hard work and dedication to public service, but to effectively and efficiently exercise their duties and responsibilities under the law.

The approval of this measure is being sought for.



IMELDA CALIXTO-RUBIANO
Representative
Lone District of Pasay City

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HOUSE BILL NO. 3499

Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE IMELDA CALIXTO-RUBIANO

AN ACT
GRANTING MANDATORY PHILHEALTH BENEFITS TO ALL
INCUMBENT BARANGAY OFFICIALS, PROVIDING FUNDS
THEREFOR.

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Barangay Official's Mandatory Philhealth Benefits Act".

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to grant mandatory Philhealth benefits and automatic membership coverage to the National Health Insurance Program (NHIP) to incumbent barangay officials.

SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* - For the purpose of this Act, the following terms shall mean:

Barangay Officials - refer to the punong barangay, members of the sangguniang barangay, barangay secretary, barangay treasurer, members of the lupon tagapamayapa, barangay tanods, health workers, daycare workers and the sangguniang kabataan chairman; and

Philhealth Benefits - refers to the benefit package (services that the program offers to its members) under Section 10, Republic Act No. 7875, otherwise known as the "National Health Insurance Act of 1995". The benefit package as enumerated under R.A. No. 7875 comprise of in-patient hospital care; outpatient care; emergency and transfer services; and such other health

care services that the Corporation (Philippine Health Insurance Corporation) shall determine to be appropriate and cost-effective.

SEC. 4. *Entitlement.* - All incumbent barangay officials shall be entitled to mandatory Philhealth benefits. These officials upon their assumption of office shall be accorded automatic membership coverage with Philhealth benefits under the NHIP and will be issued Health Insurance Identification (ID) Card.

SEC. 5. *Governing Policies.* - The exercise of this mandate must be based on the Constitution, Civil Service Law, Local Government Code of 1991, orders and other allied laws.

SEC. 6. *Limitation.* - The right to avail of this Philhealth benefits shall not be given to those barangay officials and tanods who were convicted of a crime or have pending criminal or administrative case/s filed against them.

SEC. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The Secretary of the Department of Interior and Local Government in coordination with the local government units concerned shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.* - If any part or provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, other provisions, which are not affected thereby, shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 10. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,