

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. _____ 76



Introduced by REP. ANTHONY G. DEL ROSARIO

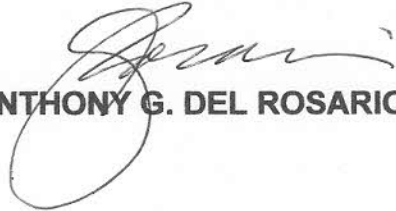
EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 11, Article XIII of the Constitution provides that *"The State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost."*

Despite this Constitutional mandate, barangay health workers (BHWs) receive meager allowances while braving remote barangays, traversing inaccessible roads and even sea routes to discharge their tasks of bringing health care services to areas where urban-trained doctors cannot reach.

In cognizance of the valuable contribution of barangay health workers to community health development and for living the very essence of selfless service in bringing about health and well-being to our nation, this bill seeks to provide additional benefits to BHWs. These include compulsory coverage under the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHILHEALTH) and the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) thereby expanding and increasing the benefits they are currently receiving.

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


ANTHONY G. DEL ROSARIO

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AN ACT

GRANTING ACCREDITED BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS COMPULSORY COVERAGE UNDER THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM AND GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7883, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS' BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES ACT OF 1995," AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Section 6 of Republic Act No 7883 is hereby amended to read as follows:

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

a) ***Hazard Allowance.*** – Volunteer barangay health workers in rural and urban areas, exposed to situations, conditions, or factors in the work environment or place where foreseeable but unavoidable danger or risks exist which adversely endanger his health or life and/or increase the risk of producing adverse effect on his person in the exercise of his duties, to be validated by the proper authorities, shall be entitled to hazard allowance in the amount OF THREE THOUSAND PESOS (₱3,000.00) OR HIGHER to be determined by the local health board and the local peace and order council of the local government unit concerned.

x

x

x

G) ***PHILHEALTH COMPULSORY COVERAGE.*** – ALL BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS SHALL BE ENROLLED IN THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM TO AVAIL OF PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES AND OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY HEALTH BENEFITS PROVIDED BY THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION (PHIC).

H) ***GSIS COMPULSOLRY COVERAGE.*** – ALL BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS SHALL BE ENROLLED IN THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM TO ENABLE THEM TO RECEIVE AND AVAIL OF THE RETIREMENT, DISABILITY AND FUNERAL

BENEFITS PROVIDED UNDER RA NO. 8291, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "*THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE ACT OF 1997.*"

THE PREMIUMS AND STANDARD MONTHLY CONTRIBUTIONS SHALL BE BORNE BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT WHERE THE BARANGAY HEALTH WORKER IS ASSIGNED: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SHALL SUBSIDIZE FIFTY PERCENT (50%) OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF FOURTH, FIFTH AND SIXTH CLASS MUNICIPALITIES."

SEC. 2. All laws, decrees, executive orders, presidential issuances and other administrative rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,