

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 773



Introduced by *Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo*

EXPLANATORY NOTE

While there is a prevailing scheme of accreditation as would govern the administration and operation of health maintenance organizations, it is only to the extent that a 'Clearance to Operate' is issued by, at present, the Department of Health, specifically, the Office for Health Facilities Standards and Regulations.

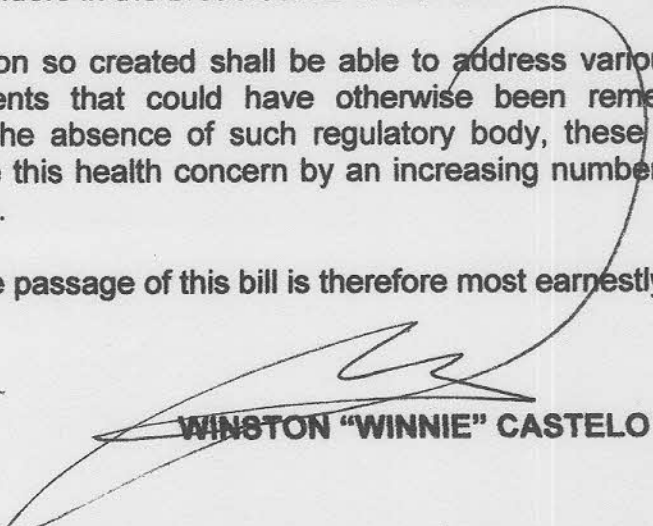
Health management organizations are akin to business entities that arrange for pre-paid health care services for their members by contracting with hospitals, physicians and other health professionals for their services.

The members who are provided with medical services are those duly enrolled with these HMOs who may be as out-patient or in-patient. However, there are instances that bonafide cardholders do not get to avail of their maximum benefits that they should otherwise enjoy by way of exemptions.

To this end, there must be a regulatory commission to take charge of multi-faceted problems that now plague this industry as the ones that serve as medical services providers in the broad sense of the term.

The commission so created shall be able to address various humiliating experiences of patients that could have otherwise been remedied or fully addressed since in the absence of such regulatory body, these problems will continue to permeate this health concern by an increasing number of current or prospective enrollees.

The immediate passage of this bill is therefore most earnestly sought.


WINSTON "WINNIE" CASTELO

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AN ACT
CREATING THE HEALTH MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATIONS REGULATORY
COMMISSION AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Health Management Organizations Regulatory Commission of 2013".

SEC. 2. There is hereby created this independent Health Management Organizations Regulatory Commission.

SEC. 3. For purposes of this Act, the Commission shall provisionally adopt its mandate, control, supervision, and authority over all health management organizations from the hitherto existing Office for Health Facilities Standards and Regulations and the Rules and Regulations on the Supervision of Health Maintenance Organizations as set forth pursuant to Administrative Order No. 34 of the Department of Health;

Provided, That after two years of transition in the administration and operation of all health management organizations throughout the country, said Commission shall automatically evolve as independent in its overall administrative and operational functions as the proper regulatory agency.

SEC. 4. Thenceforth, the Health Management Organizations Regulatory Commission shall issue new set of supervisory and regulatory guidelines, rules and regulations to effectively implement the provision of this Act.

All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect upon publication in the Official Gazette and at least three (3) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,