

*Republic of the Philippines*  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

Sixteenth Congress

First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2306**



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Introduced by: Hon. Angelina "Helen" D.L. Tan, M.D.

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Consistent with Article II, Section 15 of the Constitution which states that, "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them", this measure seeks to establish a Free Basic Medicines Program in all barangays of the country.

It ensures that no sick person shall be deprived of his or her right to medical attention including the provision of essential medicines. This proposed Program aims to make possible the accessibility of medicines to the marginalized sectors of our society with the ultimate goal of ensuring their health and well being.

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

  
**ANGELINA "HELEN" D.L. TAN, M.D.**

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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING A FREE BASIC MEDICINES PROGRAM IN ALL**  
**BARANGAY HEALTH CENTERS OF THE COUNTRY AND APPROPRIATING**  
**FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This act shall be known as the "Free Basic Medicines Act of 2013."

SEC 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to protect and promote the right to health and well-being of every Filipino and to adopt a system implementing the delivery of free basic medicines to indigent residents in all barangays nationwide.

SEC 3. Establishments of Free Basic Medicines Programs. – There is hereby established a Free Basic Medicines Programs, hereinafter referred to as the "Program" to be administered by the Department of Health (DOH) through barangay health centers in all municipalities, in coordination with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).

SEC 4. Eligible Beneficiaries. – The program shall be restricted to qualified recipients to be identified by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). The implementing rules and regulations shall guarantee that the intended beneficiaries are indigent residents of barangay with an annual income of not more than One Hundred Thousand Pesos (P100,000).

SEC 5. Availment of Free Basic Medicines. – The medicines shall be made available in barangay health centers nationwide. All medicines which will be released to qualified recipients shall be accounted for through a quarterly report to be submitted to the Department of Health.

SEC 6. Appropriations.- The amount of One Billion Pesos (P1,000,000,000.00) for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations of the Department of Health under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary for its continued implementation shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC 7. Rules and Regulations. – The Department of Health (DOH) in coordination with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), shall prescribe such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act within six (6) months from the effectivity hereof.

SEC 8. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations and other issuances or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC 9. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.