

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4811



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

AN ACT GRANTING AUTOMATIC PHILHEALTH COVERAGE FOR ALL ORPHANS, ABANDONED AND ABUSED MINORS, OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTHS AND STREET CHILDREN, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7875, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10606, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE ACT OF 2013”

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In 2000, the Philippine made a commitment to “spare no effort to free our fellow men, women, and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty” which was later on translated into the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

In 2015, the country has renewed its commitment to “end poverty and hunger, in all their forms and dimensions, and to ensure that all human beings can fulfill their potential in dignity and equality and in a healthy environment” under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In particular, one of the SDGs seeks to “Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all” (Goal 3.3.8).

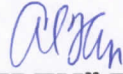
Towards this end, the objective of the National Health Insurance Act of 2013 or Republic Act 10606 is to mandatorily cover all Filipinos under the National Health Insurance Program (NHIP) consistent with the principles of universality and compulsory coverage and also ensure sustained coverage and continuous enhancement of quality service. It also prioritizes and accelerates the provision of health services to all Filipinos, especially those segments of the population who cannot afford such essential services for health.

R.A. 10606 identifies the orphans, abused and abandoned minors, street children and out-of-school-youths as one of the more vulnerable sectors that need access to quality health care through the NHIP enrollment and coverage, which however, is under the Sponsored Members of the NHIP. In view of ensuring sustained coverage and continuous enhancement of quality health services to these sectors, this bill seeks to

provide automatic PhilHealth membership to all the orphans, abused and abandoned minors, street children and out-of-school-youths who are not yet enrolled under any existing categories of PhilHealth.

Through this initiative, the attainment of the universal PhilHealth coverage will be a step closer as it will automatically enroll all the orphans, abused and abandoned minors, street children and out-of-school-youths in the NHIP of the government.

Hence, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



ANGELINA "HELEN" D.L. TAN, M.D.
4th District, Quezon

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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 “*PhilHealth Para sa Ulilang Kabataan At Iba Pa Act*”.

SEC. 2. Section 12 of Republic Act No. 7875, as amended by Republic Act No. 10606 is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 12. *Entitlement to Benefits.* – A member whose premium contributions for at least three (3) months have been paid within six (6) months prior to the first day of availment, including those of the dependents, shall be entitled to the benefits of the Program: Provided, That such member can show that contributions have been made with sufficient regularity: Provided, further, That the member is not currently subject to legal penalties as provided for in Section 44 of this Act.

“The following need not pay the monthly contributions to be entitled to the Program’s benefits:

“(a) Retirees and pensioners of the SSS and GSIS prior to the effectivity of this Act; and

“(b) Lifetime members[.]” AND

“C. ALL ORPHANS, ABANDONED AND ABUSED MINORS, OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTHS AND STREET CHILDREN WHO ARE NOT CURRENTLY COVERED UNDER ANY EXISTING CATEGORY OF PHILHEALTH.

SEC. 3. A new Section 29-C is hereby inserted after Section 29-B of Republic Act No. 7875, as amended by Republic Act No. 10606 to read as follows:

"SEC. 29-C. *Coverage of orphans, abandoned and abused minors, out-of-school youths, and street children.* - The premium contributions of orphans, abandoned and abused minors, out-of-school youths, and street children shall be fully borne by the national government to be sourced from the national health insurance fund of PhilHealth earmarked from the proceeds of Sin Tax Collections as provided in Republic Act No. 10351.

SEC. 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (Philhealth) and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) shall promulgate, not later than thirty (30) days upon the effectivity of this Act, the necessary rules and regulation for its proper and effective implementation.

SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,