

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

17th Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **5914**

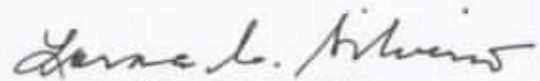


Introduced by: **HON. LORNA C. SILVERIO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The number of dialysis patients have been rising over the past decade and is becoming a concern for us Filipinos. Kidney related diseases according to the Department of Health (DOH) is the country's 6th cause of death for the year 2013. Patients' profile have become younger and their number more than doubled from 4,000 cases last 2004 to more or less 23,000 in the 2013 figures released by the DOH. The accessibility of dialysis treatment especially in the public sector has been a challenge to people who are in dire need of this. For the treatment, the patient must travel to urban cities for dialysis and it has become burdensome, because we must remember that this is a regular treatment which is availed almost thrice a week. The high cost and inaccessibility has been a concern for the patients especially the indigents who could not afford to travel and pay for a regular dialysis cycle. In consonance with the government's efforts to make health services accessible and affordable, the local governments must play an active role in being the first line of providers for these people. A dialysis ward must be maintained and operated by national, regional, and provincial government hospitals and prioritize indigents living in the rural areas thus making the treatment free of any charge. Let us make an efficient system wherein our constituents can freely avail of the basic healthcare services the State is tasked to provide and promote.

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


LORNA C. SILVERIO

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HOUSE BILL NO. 5914

Introduced by: HON. LORNA C. SILVERIO

AN ACT REQUIRING ALL NATIONAL, REGIONAL, AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS TO ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A DIALYSIS WARD OR UNIT IN THEIR RESPECTIVE HOSPITAL AND PROVIDING FREE DIALYSIS TREATMENT TO INDIGENT PATIENTS

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 "Dialysis Center Act of 2017."

SEC 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is the declared policy of the State to improve the delivery of health care services to the people and to ensure hospital facilities are available, affordable and accessible to the people

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

- a) "Secretary" shall refer to the Secretary of the Department of Health;
- b) "National Government Hospital" shall refer to a hospital operated and maintained either partially or wholly by the national government or by any department, division, board or other agency thereof;
- c) "Regional Government Hospital" shall refer to a hospital operated and maintained either partially or wholly by the national government or by any department, division, board or other agency thereof;
- d) "Provincial Government Hospital" shall refer to a hospital operated and maintained either partially or wholly by the provincial government or other political subdivision, or by any department division, board or other agency thereof; and
- e) "Indigent Patient" shall refer to a patient whose combined annual family incomes does not exceed Thirty Thousand (P30,000.00) annually.

SEC 4. Establishment, Operation and Maintenance of a Dialysis Ward or Unit. - Within two (2) years from the effectivity of this Act, all national, regional, and provincial government hospitals are hereby required to establish, operate and maintain a dialysis ward or unit in their hospital. The dialysis ward or unit shall be equipped with complete dialysis machine, equipment and supplies.

SEC 5. Free Dialysis Treatment to Indigent Patients. - Dialysis treatment in all national, regional and provincial government hospitals shall be provided free of charge to indigent patients as defined in Section 3 (e) hereof.

SEC 6. Penalty. - Any hospital chief, administrator or officer-in-charge who fails to comply with this Act shall be punished with a fine of Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000.00) but not more than One Hundred Thousand Pesos (P100,000.00).

SEC 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - The Secretary shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC 8. Appropriations. - Such amount as may be necessary to implement the provisions of this Act is hereby authorized to be appropriated from the National Treasury. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the continuous implementation of this Act shall be included in the government hospital's annual appropriations.

SEC 9. Separability Clause. - If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SEC 10. Repealing Clause. - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SEC 11. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

