

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7137



Introduced by Honorable Dale "Along" R. Malapitan

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to provide compulsory coverage of all accredited barangay health workers in the National Health Insurance Program amending for the purpose Republic Act No. 7883, otherwise known as the "*Barangay Health Workers' Benefits and Incentives Act of 1995.*"

Barangay health workers (BHWs) provide front-line health care services in the communities they serve. They underwent training programs through accredited government or non-governmental organizations to provide basic, safe and effective health care services to the people in the barangays. In health centers, BHWs assist and support government physicians, dentists, nutritionists, public health nurses and midwives by providing a) first aid; b) health care services; c) nutrition education, monitoring and feeding; d) family planning services; and e) sanitation and hygiene promotion and education.

In rendering public service, these workers are exposed to conditions which endanger their health or life. Sadly, the workers at present, receive a contemptibly small monthly average honorarium. Thus, their relentless efforts in providing health care to our barangay folks who could not afford hospital fees are not sufficiently remunerated. They are underpaid and not even provided with health insurance coverage.

In recognition of their invaluable service as pillars of the nation's health care delivery system, and for their dedication to duty and commitment to help the people, this bill seeks to provide compulsory coverage of all accredited barangay health workers in the National Health Insurance Program.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this bill into law is highly recommended.


HON. DALE "ALONG" R. MALAPITAN

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HOUSE BILL NO. 7137

Introduced by Honorable Dale “Along” R. Malapitan

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE COMPULSORY COVERAGE OF ALL
ACCREDITED BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS IN THE NATIONAL
HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7883, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
“BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS’ BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES ACT
OF 1995”

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 by
adding a new paragraph to read as follows:

“Sec. 6. *Incentives and Benefits.* – In recognition of their
services, all accredited barangay health workers who are actively
and regularly performing their duties shall be entitled to the
following incentives and benefits:

a) x x x

G) **PHILHEALTH COMPULSORY COVERAGE.** – ALL
BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS AND THEIR
DEPENDENTS SHALL BE ENTITLED TO MEMBERSHIP IN
THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM TO
GIVE THEM ADEQUATE PERSONAL HEALTH CARE
WHICH SHALL NOT BE LIMITED TO IN-PATIENT
HOSPITAL CARE, OUT-PATIENT CARE, EMERGENCY

1 AND TRANSFER SERVICES, AND OTHER
2 SUPPLEMENTARY PACKAGES OR HEALTH INSURANCE
3 BENEFITS PROVIDED BY THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH
4 INSURANCE CORPORATION (PHIC).

5 THE REQUIRED PREMIUMS AND STANDARD
6 MONTHLY CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE BARANGAY
7 HEALTH WORKER SHALL BE PAID BY THE NATIONAL
8 GOVERNMENT.”
9

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

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

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