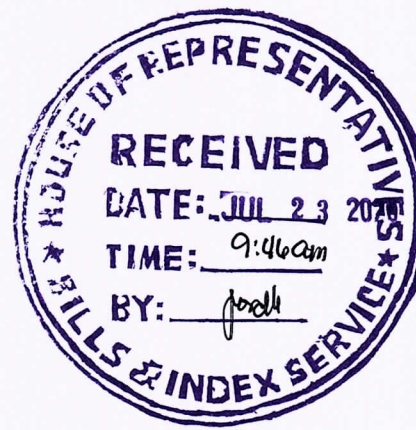


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7160



Introduced by ACT-CIS Party-list Representative Rowena Niña O. Taduran

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 32 of the Philippine Nursing Act of 2002 raised the monthly base pay of government nurses. From Salary Grade (SG) 11, government nurses will now receive a pay amounting to Salary Grade (SG) 15, increasing their income by as much as P10,000.00 per month under the Salary Standardization Law (SSL). Interestingly, R.A. No. 5527, as amended, which regulates the practice of medical technology, does not contain a provision on the compensation of medical technologists. They have been left out in the cold for so long now.

Medical technologists are by no means inferior to nurses; they work just as hard, yet they receive a lot less. Just like nurses, medical technologists are exposed to the same risk every time they report for work. Hence, they must be compensated in the same level as nurses.

Especially at this time, the country is in immediate need of medical technologists in the numerous hospitals attending to sick patients. How then can we encourage our medical technologists to help in the fight against COVID-19?

This bill aims to give justice to our medical technologists in the public and private sectors; it aims to make them stay in the country.

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

ROWENA NIÑA O. TADURAN



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AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 5527

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 "2020 Amendment to R.A. No. 5527, as amended".

Section 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – Article II, Section 18 of the Constitution provides, viz.,

"The State affirms labor as a primary social economic force. It shall protect the rights of workers and promote their welfare."

Section 3. – Section 30 of R.A. No. 5527 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 30. Salary. – *To promote the welfare of and to encourage more medical technologists to work in public and private hospitals, the minimum base pay of a registered medical technologist shall not be lower than an amount equivalent to Salary Grade 15 under Republic Act No. 6758 or the "Compensation and Classification Act of 1989".*

Section 4. The erstwhile Sections 30, 31 and 32 of R.A. No. 5527 are hereby numbered as Sections 31, 32, and 33.

Section 5. *Separability Clause.* – If any part or provision of the Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, other provisions hereof which are not affected hereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Section 6. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 7. *Effectivity.* – This shall take effect after fifteen (15) days from its publication in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.