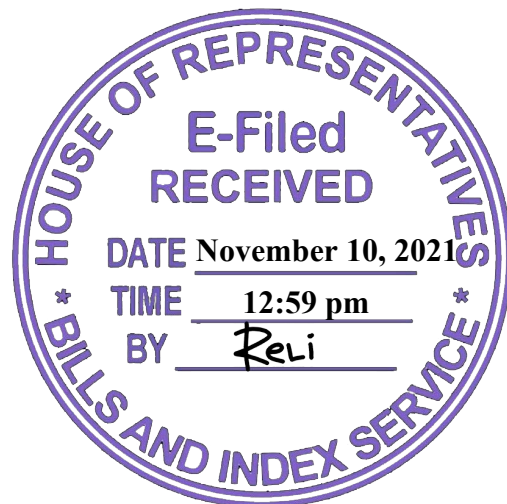


REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

House Bill No. 10465



Introduced by **MAGDALO Party-List Representative**
HON. MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article XIII, Section 14 of the 1987 Constitution affirms that the "State shall protect working women by providing safe and healthful working conditions, taking into account their maternal functions, and such facilities and opportunities that will enhance their welfare and enable them to realize their full potential in the service of the nation."

This measure seeks to amend Section 11 of Republic Act No. 11210 to grant a maternity benefit to female workers in the informal economy that would promote social equity and economic productivity. It shall cover female workers who are neither voluntary nor regular members of the Social Security Service (SSS). They shall receive a one-time direct maternity cash benefit per delivery equivalent to the prevailing minimum wage rate in the region they are based multiplied by 22 days.

There is an urgent need to establish a non-contributory maternity cash transfer to female workers belonging to the informal sector. This is to ensure that they are given commensurate support by the government. While Republic Act No. 11210, otherwise known as the "105-Day Expanded Maternity Leave Law" has provided the salient provisions in championing the maternal health of workers, the law has been silent on

granting the adequate maternal support needed by those belonging to the informal economy or non-members of the SSS.

As stated in Article 6, Section 6 of the International Labor Organization (ILO) Maternity Protection Convention No. 183, a woman shall be entitled to adequate benefits out of social assistance funds if she does not meet the conditions to qualify for cash benefits under national laws and regulations.¹ This proposed measure, therefore, seeks to address the lack of adequate support for women in the informal economy and give due importance to their maternal protection and their unborn children.

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



MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III

Representative

Magdalo Para Sa Pilipino Party-List

¹ ILO. C183 – Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 (No. 183). Information retrieved from https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO::P12100_ILO_CODE:C183

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AN ACT
GRANTING A MATERNITY BENEFIT TO WOMEN WORKERS IN THE
INFORMAL ECONOMY, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO.
11210, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 SECTION 1. *Title.*— This Act shall be known as the “Maternity Benefit for Women
2 in the Informal Economy Act”.

3
4 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*— It is hereby declared the policy of the State to
5 protect the rights and welfare of women workers in the informal economy, ensure
6 optimal maternal health consistent with the Sustainable Development Goals, and
7 encourage and support the practice of breastfeeding in furtherance of its obligation to
8 ensure the survival and development of Filipino children.

9
10 Sec. 3. *Maternity Benefit for Women Workers in the Informal Economy.*—
11 Section 11 of Republic Act No. 11210 is hereby amended with a new Section 11,

1 which read as follows:

3 X x x

5 SEC. 11. MATERNITY BENEFITS FOR FEMALE WORKERS WHO ARE NON-
6 MEMBER OF THE SSS. – FEMALE WORKERS WHO ARE NEITHER VOLUNTARY
7 NOR REGULAR MEMBERS OF THE SSS [~~SHALL BE GOVERNED BY THE~~
8 ~~PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION (PHILHEALTH) CIRCULAR~~
9 ~~NO. 022-2014 OR THE "SOCIAL HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE AND~~
10 ~~BENEFITS FOR WOMEN ABOUT TO GIVE BIRTH"~~] SHALL RECEIVE, THROUGH
11 THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT (DSWD), A ONE-
12 TIME DIRECT MATERNITY CASH BENEFIT PER DELIVERY EQUIVALENT TO THE
13 PREVAILING MINIMUM WAGE RATE IN HER REGION OF RESIDENCE
14 MULTIPLIED BY TWENTY-TWO (22) DAYS.

16 x x X

18 Sec. 4. *Appropriations.*– The amount needed for the initial implementation of
19 the maternity benefit shall be taken from the revenues from excise taxes on
20 sweetened beverages, alcohol, tobacco products, heated tobacco products, and vapor
21 products, and may be augmented under the General Appropriations Act.

23 Sec. 5. *Separability Clause.*– If any portion or provision of this Act is declared
24 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provisions not affected thereby shall
25 remain in force and effect.

27 Sec. 6. *Repealing Clause.*– Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
28 order, letter of instruction, rule or regulation inconsistent with the provisions of this
29 Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

31 Sec. 7. *Effectivity.*– This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its
32 complete publication in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation.

1

2

Approved,