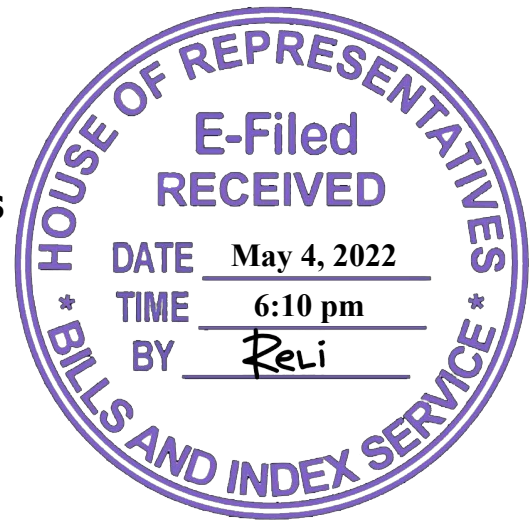


REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

House Bill No. 10836



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

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Since the onset of the COVID-19 in the country, our medical frontliners have continuously been working to mitigate the soaring cases of COVID-19. Most of them have sacrificed their personal lives and time with their family to save the thousands of patients afflicted by the deadly virus. Many medical frontliners also died from the virus while performing their duties. Likewise, they tremendously suffer from severe fatigue and burnout as patients continue to be admitted to hospitals. There is no doubt that our medical frontliners selflessly ensure the welfare of our nation while compromising their own.

To recognize their heroism and sacrifices, the State must show its full support and gratitude to our present heroes in various forms that could help ease their living conditions. This measure, therefore, seeks to provide our medical frontliners up to 20% discount on goods and services, which includes public transportation facilities, health services, dining and accommodation, and physical fitness facilities. This is one concrete way to contribute to the well-being of our medical frontliners.

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

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AN ACT
GRANTING DISCOUNT PRIVILEGES TO MEDICAL FRONTLINERS

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

1 SECTION 1. *Short Title.*— This Act shall be known as the “Lingkod Medical
2 Frontliners Discount Act”.

3
4 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*— It is hereby declared the policy of the State to
5 ensure the welfare of medical workers in recognition of their indispensable role in the
6 healthcare system of our country, particularly in times of a pandemic or public health
7 emergency. Towards this end, the State shall adopt a program to make essential
8 goods, health, and other services available to them at an affordable cost.

9
10 The provisions and benefits of this Act shall be given to public and private
11 medical workers who are actively engaged in treating patients affected by a pandemic
12 or national health emergency. The provisions of this Act shall apply only during a
13 pandemic or public health emergency as declared by the National Government.

1 Sec. 3. *Public Transport Facilities.*– All government-owned and controlled
2 corporations or private entities, owning, operating, or managing public transport
3 facilities, whether land, sea, or air shall give priority to the medical frontline workers,
4 and provide them with at least twenty (20%) discounts on all transportation fare within
5 the Philippines.

6
7 Sec. 4. *Health Services.*– Medical frontline workers shall also be entitled to a
8 discount of at least twenty percent (20%) on fees or charges for hospital, medical, and
9 dental services rendered by public and private medical institution and practitioners.

10
11 Drugstores and drug companies shall extend to the medical frontline workers a
12 discount of not less than twenty percent (20%) on the cost of medicines and
13 supplemental vitamins, as prescribed by a registered medical or dental practitioner.

14
15 Sec. 5. *Hotels, Lodging Houses, Restaurants, and Eateries.*– Medical frontline
16 workers shall be granted a minimum discount of twenty percent (20%) on rentals for
17 lodging in hotels, motels, inns, pension, or other lodging houses and on the cost of
18 food served in cafes, cafeterias, refreshment parlors, restaurants, soda fountain bars,
19 carinderia, or food cafeterias, and other similar establishments.

20
21 Sec. 6. *Physical Fitness Facilities.*– Any hospital, gym, or other facility offering
22 physical fitness programs shall extend to medical frontline workers at a twenty percent
23 (20%) discount.

24
25 Sec. 7. *Limitation on Discount Privileges and Other Benefits.*– The discount
26 privileges and other benefits mentioned in this Act shall apply only to the personal
27 account of the medical frontline worker in payment of the actual services and goods
28 used by him or her. It shall not extend to his or her relatives or companions who are
29 not qualified beneficiaries under this Act.

30
31 Sec. 8. *Availment.*– Medical frontline workers qualified under this Act may avail
32 of the discount privileges upon presentation of a valid identification card issued by their

1 employer, a Professional Regulation Commission Professional ID Card and a supporting
2 document issued by employer stating that they are in fact engaged in the treatment
3 of patients affected by a pandemic or a national health emergency.
4

5 *Sec. 9. Penalties.*— Any person who refuses to extend the privileges and benefits
6 granted under this Act to medical frontline workers entitled thereto after request and
7 proper identification of who unduly takes advantage of any such privileges or benefits,
8 or who violates any of the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to this act, shall
9 suffer the penalty of prision correccional or a fine of not less than Two Hundred Pesos
10 (P200.00) but not more than Six Thousand Pesos (P6,000.00), or both such fine and
11 imprisonment, at the discretion of the court.
12

13 In the case the offender is a corporation, cooperative, partnership or
14 association, the penalty shall be imposed upon the president, manager, or officers
15 thereof who had knowingly permitted or were otherwise responsible for the
16 commission of the offense. If it can be shown such refusal to grant discount privileges
17 is a corporate decision, all the members of the board shall be held liable.
18

19 In case of a succeeding offense, the penalties of both imprisonment and fine
20 shall be imposed in the maximum period. In addition, thereto, such shall be sufficient
21 cause for the immediate cancellation of the professional license or permit to operate
22 the business or medical establishment.
23

24 *Sec. 10. Implementing Rules and Regulations.*— The Department of Health, in
25 consultation with other concerned government agencies, private sector and
26 stakeholders, shall within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, promulgate
27 the rules and regulations to effectively implement the provisions of this Act.
28

29 *Sec. 11. Separability Clause.*— If any portion or provision of this Act is
30 subsequently declared invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions hereof which are
31 not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.
32

1 Sec. 12. *Repealing Clause.*— All other laws, acts, presidential decrees, executive
2 orders, presidential proclamations, issuances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof
3 which are contrary to or inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby
4 repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

5
6 Sec. 13. *Effectivity Clause.*— This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
7 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,