

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila
Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session
HOUSE BILL NO. 1713



Introduced by **Rep. Anthony R. T. Golez Jr. MD, MBAH**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The State is responsible in protecting the health and welfare of the people. Recognizing its role, the State has extended its services and resources through The Universal Health Care Act, mandating the inclusion of all Filipinos to the National Health Insurance Program (NHIP).

Section 6a, Chapter II of Republic Act No. 11223 (Universal Health Care Act) states:

"Every Filipino shall be granted immediate eligibility and access to preventive, promotive, curative, rehabilitative, and palliative care for medical, dental, mental and emergency health services, delivered either as population-based or individual-based health services"

This bill aims to include an annual free medical check-up in addition to the existing benefits that Filipinos may avail through the National Health Insurance Program. Due to the pandemic, more Filipinos are now eager to know their current health conditions and are more proactive in checking for the possible health hazards posed by early symptoms. The Annual Medical Check-up Program shall therefore include physical examination, screening, laboratory and diagnostic tests, and follow up consultation by PhilHealth-accredited health care institutions and primary care providers.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "ARAGOLEZ", written over the printed name of the representative.

HON. ANTHONY R. T. GOLEZ JR. MD, MBAH
Malasakit at Bayanihan Party List

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR A FREE ANNUAL MEDICAL CHECK-UP FOR ALL
FILIPINOS

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

Section 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “*Free Annual Medical Check-Up Act of 2022.*”

Sec. 2. Declaration of Policies. – It is the policy of the State to support and promote the right to health by enhancing programs which focus on preventive and curative medicine that advance the health and well-being of Filipinos and prevent disease, disability, and death. Pursuant thereto, Filipinos shall be entitled to an annual medical check-up that is free of charge.

Sec. 3. Coverage. – All Filipino citizens, by virtue of membership in the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) mandated under Republic Act No. 11223, or the “Universal Health Care Law”, shall be entitled to the applicable benefits under the National Health Insurance Program including a free annual medical check-up.

Sec. 4. Annual Medical Check-Up Program. – To promote health, identify risks, and ensure early diagnosis, PhilHealth, in consultation with the Department of Health (DOH), shall establish a system in line with its Comprehensive Outpatient Benefit Package that allows access to an annual medical check-up program at least once each calendar year that shall include physical examination, screening, laboratory and

diagnostic tests, and follow up consultation to all members of PhilHealth free of charge: Provided, That, the duration of the availment of the Annual Medical Check-Up Program shall be for the whole calendar year.

Sec. 5. Screening, tests and consultation. – Prior to the availment of laboratory and diagnostic tests under the Annual Medical Check-Up Program, the patient shall first be physically examined and screened by a PhilHealth-accredited primary care provider to evaluate the patient based on his/her individual needs anchored on his/her health and age risks, and identify which laboratory and diagnostic tests should be administered to the patient: Provided, That, the availment of the laboratory and diagnostic tests shall be through PhilHealth-accredited health care institutions (HCIs): Provided, further, That the corresponding medical consultation after the release of the test results shall be done by PhilHealth-accredited health care professionals.

PhilHealth shall identify laboratory and diagnostic tests to be included in the Free Annual Medical Check-Up Program based on current and emerging health necessities of Filipinos. Laboratory and diagnostic tests included in the Program shall be expanded, subject to the availability of PhilHealth funds.

Sec. 6. Accreditation. – PhilHealth shall accredit, based on its existing guidelines, health care professionals, primary health care providers and health care institutions which will administer the physical examination, screening, laboratory and diagnostic tests and consultation provided under the Annual Medical Check-Up Program.

Local Government Units (LGUs) are encouraged to ensure that there are enough PhilHealth-accredited health facilities where their constituents can readily access the Annual Medical Check-Up Program. Towards this end, LGUs are encouraged register their health facilities and rural health units for accreditation of PhilHealth.

Sec. 7. Implementation. – To allow PhilHealth to accredit the appropriate number of health care professionals, primary health care providers and health care facilities to effectively and efficiently implement the Annual Medical Check-Up Program, PhilHealth shall develop a plan for the phased implementation of this Act in line with

the implementation and development of its Comprehensive Outpatient Benefit Package: Provided, That, the Annual Medical Check-Up Program shall be made available to all Filipinos within two (2) years from the effectivity of this Act.

Sec. 8. Appropriations. — The amount necessary to implement this Act shall be charged against the total revenue of PhilHealth, composed of premium contributions from direct contributors and premium subsidies of the government for the indirect contributors.

Sec. 9. Separability Clause. — If any clause, sentence, paragraph or part of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, such judgment shall not affect, invalidate or impact any other part of this Act.

Sec. 10. Repealing Clause. — Any provision of laws, orders, agreements, rules or regulations contrary to and inconsistent with this Act is hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Sec. 11. Effectivity. — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,