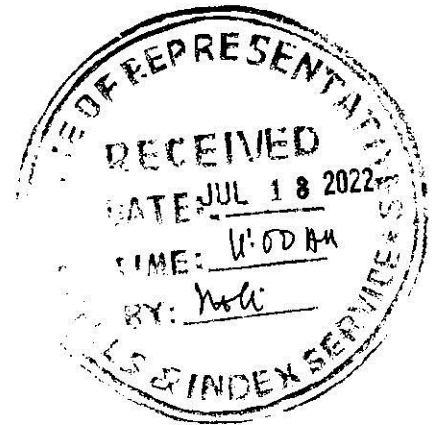


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **2092**



Introduced by
Senior Citizens Party-List Representative RODOLFO "OMPONG" M. ORDANES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article XIII, Section 11 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution states that the "State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost." Likewise, Article XV, Section 4 further declares that it is the duty of the family to take care of its elderly members while the State may design programs of social security for them.²²

However, senior citizens continue to be one of the most vulnerable sectors of our society as they cannot even access basic services such as an annual medical check-up due to financial constraints. This relegates senior citizens to unwarranted harm as they lack the cornerstone of every medical protection, a diagnosis.

Thus, this bill seeks to make the country's commitment to Universal Health Care more genuinely felt by the elderly population and give our almost ten million senior citizens the quality healthcare they rightfully deserve.

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


RODOLFO "OMPONG" M. ORDANES

²² The 1987 Philippine Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR A FREE ANNUAL MEDICAL CHECK-UP FOR FILIPINOS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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."

SEC. 2. Declaration of Principle. — 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 in any government hospital and institution.

SEC. 3. Coverage. — All Filipino Citizens, by virtue of their 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 Philippine Health Insurance Program.

Members shall be entitled to a free annual medical check-up that shall include 16 blood sugar and cholesterol tests. Laboratory and diagnostic tests shall be expanded, 17 subject to the availability of PhilHealth funds.

SEC. 4. Schedule of Free Medical Check-Up. — To promote health, identify risks, and ensure early diagnosis, PhilHealth shall establish a system that allows access to a free annual medical check-up and ensure that

Filipinos shall be accorded the quality health care services that they deserve.

SEC. 5. Appropriations. — The amount necessary to implement this Act shall be charged against the PhilHealth funds.

SEC. 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations. — The Department of Health shall, in coordination with PhilHealth, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act not later than ninety (90) days from its effectivity.

SEC. 7. Separability Clause. — If any provision or part of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 8. Repealing Clause. — All laws, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations, inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 9. Effectivity. — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.