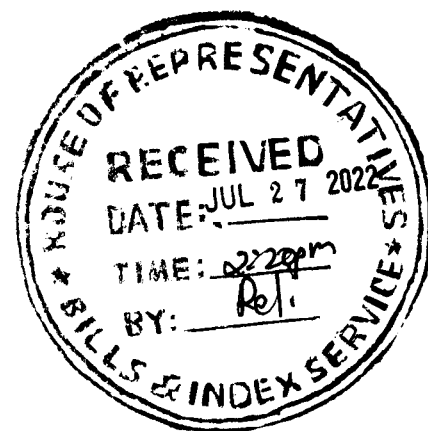


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 2496

Introduced by: HON. DANTE S. GARCIA

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

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill aims to enable each Filipino to have the chance to get a free annual medical check-up as members of the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth). It is also in the context of pursuing preventive medical care that every citizen deserves.

This measure hopes to preventively address the leading causes of death in the country: heart diseases, pneumonia, cancers, tuberculosis, diabetes and other respiratory diseases.

These diseases are easily detected via physical examinations and diagnostic tests that are part of medical check-ups.

It is important to also note that this measure is a re-filed version of House Bill 9072 that was primarily authored by former Reps. Angelina Tan and Michael Defensor in the 18th Congress.

The immediate passage of this bill is hereby earnestly sought.

Approved,

HON. DANTE S. GARCIA
2nd District, La Union

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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 blood sugar and cholesterol tests. Laboratory and diagnostic tests shall be expanded, 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,