

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3405



Introduced by Rep. Ray Florence T. Reyes

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Recent studies have shown that Kidney failure and Chronic Kidney Disease have become one of the leading causes of hospitalization and the 10th leading cause of death in the Philippines. The National Kidney and Transplant Institute estimates that 100 new patients start dialysis treatments every month and that the number of dialysis patients has increased 400% in the past ten years.

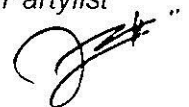
While renal transplant is still the best treatment option, it is currently challenging due to a shortage of donors and the prohibitive price tag that comes with it. For patients that have been diagnosed with End Stage Renal Disease, there seems to be no other option but to undergo dialysis for the rest of their lives, and this can set a patient and their family back approximately 200,000 to 400,000 per year.

Despite the passage of the Universal Health Care Law and kidney disease's pervasiveness in the Philippines, it remains a low priority in low and middle-income families as apart from dialysis treatments and procedures, medications and other concomitant health expenditures are still largely paid out of pocket.

This bill aims to address this problem by directing the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) to create a comprehensive dialysis package that fully covers dialysis expenses, thus benefitting thousands of Filipinos that currently need immediate medical intervention.

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


RAY FLORENCE REYES
Representative, AnaKalusugan Partylist



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**AN ACT MANDATING PHILHEALTH TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE
DIALYSIS BENEFIT PACKAGE, 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 “***Comprehensive Dialysis Benefit Package.***”

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policies.* – It is the declared policy of the State to make available essential goods, health and other social services at affordable cost to all Filipinos. Pursuant to this, the State shall continuously improve the delivery of health services and hospital facilities to make those accessible to all.

SECTION 3. *Comprehensive Dialysis Benefit Package.* – Within one (1) year from the effectivity of this Act, PhilHealth, in consultation with the Health Technology Assessment Council, shall develop a comprehensive dialysis benefit package which shall fully cover all costs of hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis treatments, sessions and procedures done in PhilHealth accredited-health facilities: *Provided, That*, for every (2) years, the patient shall undergo an assessment for eligibility to undergo kidney transplant.

PhilHealth shall strengthen its measures against anti-fraudulent acts and intentions associated with dialysis claims.

SECTION 4. *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.

SECTION 5. *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.

SECTION 6. *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.

SECTION 7. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,