



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 5454



Introduced by HONORABLE ERNESTO “ERNIX” M. DIONISIO, JR.

AN ACT
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11223, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE ACT, TO PROVIDE FOR FREE ANNUAL MEDICAL
CHECK UP FOR FILIPINOS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Constitution¹ provides that:

The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them.

It is the duty of the State to ensure that every Filipino has access to free and quality health care service. In 2018, Republic Act No. 11223, otherwise known as the “Universal Health Care Act” was enacted. Section 6 of the law provides that Philhealth shall implement a comprehensive outpatient benefit, including outpatient drug benefit and emergency medical services².

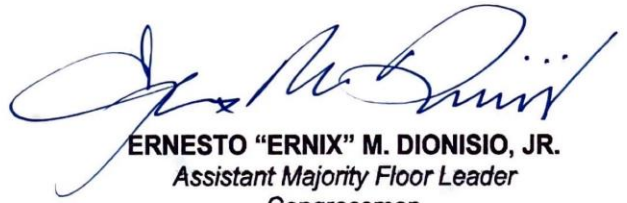
This bill seeks to further ensure that every Filipino has access to quality health care service by amending Section 6 of R.A. No. 11223, to provide a provision therein granting free annual checkup to every Filipino.

As the saying goes, prevention is better than cure. In applying this saying through this proposed bill, every Filipino would thus have a better knowledge and sense of preparedness to any possible health issue that he or she has. In doing so, we have a better chance of being able to address health concerns on an earlier stage.

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

¹ Section 15, Article II, 1987 Constitution.

² Section 6, R.A. 11223.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ernesto M. Dionisio, Jr.', with a stylized flourish at the end.

ERNESTO "ERNIX" M. DIONISIO, JR.

Assistant Majority Floor Leader

Congressman

First Congressional District of Manila



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AN ACT
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11223, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE ACT, TO PROVIDE FOR FREE ANNUAL MEDICAL
CHECK UP FOR FILIPINOS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Section 6 of Republic Act No. 11223, or the Universal Health Care Act, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 6. Service Coverage.

(a) Xxx

(b) Within two (2) years from the effectivity of this Act, Philhealth shall implement a comprehensive outpatient benefit, including outpatient drug benefit, [and] emergency medical services, AND FREE ANNUAL MEDICAL CHECK UP in accordance with the recommendations of the Health Technology Assessment Council (HTAC) created under Section 34 hereof [;].

THE ANNUAL MEDICAL CHECK-UP, AS PROVIDED FOR IN THIS ACT, SHALL INCLUDE BASIC DIAGNOSTIC AND LABORATORY TESTS SUCH AS THE FOLLOWING:

- i. COMPLETE BLOOD COUNT
- ii. URINALYSIS EXAMINATION (MACROSCOPIC AND CHEMICAL EXAMINATION)
- iii. STOOL OR FECAL ANALYSIS
- iv. CHEST X-RAY
- v. COMPLETE PHYSICAL EXAM THE DURATION OF AVAILING THE FREE MEDICAL CHECK-UP SHALL BE FOR ONE WHOLE CALENDAR YEAR.

(c) xxx

(d) Xxx

Sec. 2. Coverage. – All members of the Philippine Health Insurance (PhilHealth) mandated under Republic Act No. 11223, or the Universal Health Care Law shall be entitled to the applicable benefits under the Universal Health Insurance Program.

Sec. 3. Accreditation of Health Care Institutions. – PhilHealth shall formulate guidelines on the accreditation of healthcare professionals, primary health care providers, and health care institutions which will administer the physical examination, screening, laboratory, and diagnostic tests and consultation to implement the amended provision of the Universal Health Care Law.

PhilHealth shall identify laboratory and diagnostic tests to be included in the Free Annual Medical Check-Up Program.

Sec. 4. Separability Clause. – If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

Sec. 5. Repealing Clause. – All laws, presidential decrees or issuances, executive orders, letters of instructions, administrative orders, rule or regulation contrary to, or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

Sec. 6. Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.
Approved,