



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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 5457



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

AN ACT
PROVIDING HOUSING TO PUBLIC HEALTH WORKERS NEAR GOVERNMENT
HOSPITALS AND OTHER HEALTH FACILITIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

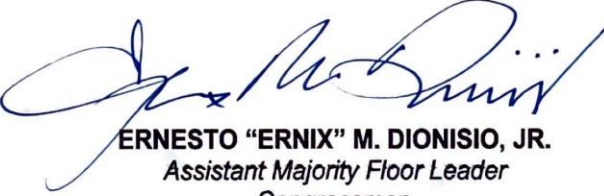
The Covid-19 Pandemic revealed to us that there are a lot of aspects in our healthcare system that we can improve on. One of which is the benefits our government provides our frontlines and health workers.

During the peak of the pandemic, there were a lot of incidents wherein our frontliners and health workers were discriminated or faced troubles regarding their necessities.

There were a lot of incidents wherein our health workers had to endure walking how many kilometers to be able to go to the hospitals, this is due to the lack of public transportation available at that time. At the height of the pandemic, health workers had to work for long hours, some had no choice but to work continuously through shifts.

This bill seeks to provide our healthcare workers housing available to them, which are situated near government hospital and other health facilities. Through the enactment of this bill, our health workers would have a proximate and available housing for them. It would enable them to have a better rest and as an effect would then be able to provide care for their patients.

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

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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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 "Health Workers Housing Act"

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is the policy of the State to instill health and consciousness among our people and to ensure that the general welfare of Filipino health workers is promoted through adequate compensation and benefits commensurate with the services they provide. Towards this end, the State shall provide decent and high-quality housing at equitable terms and conditions for public health workers who have dedicated their lives to government service.

SECTION 3. Coverage. - The provisions of this Act shall apply to all public health workers, engaged in health and health-related work, and all persons employed in all government hospitals, sanitarium, health infirmaries or health centers, regardless of their employment status.

SECTION 4. Health Workers Housing. – The Department of Health (DOH), in coordination with the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD) and the National Housing Authority (NHA), is hereby mandated to develop housing projects for public health workers, near government hospitals and other facilities, at affordable rental charges; *Provided*, That preference will be given to those health workers who are not residents of the area where the hospital or health facilities is located. *Provided further*, That if there is no available land near the government hospitals, the housing projects may be located in the same city or municipality of the said hospital or facility

SECTION 5. Private Sector Participation. – The participation of private developers in the development of health workers housing will be considered as their compliance under Republic Act No. 10884 or the Balanced Housing Development Program Amendments.

Sec. 6. Appropriations. – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA) Under the budget of the DOH.

Sec. 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within sixty days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOH, in coordination with the DHSUD and NHA, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

Sec. 8. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not so declared shall remain in force and effect.

Sec. 9. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

Sec. 10. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.
Approved