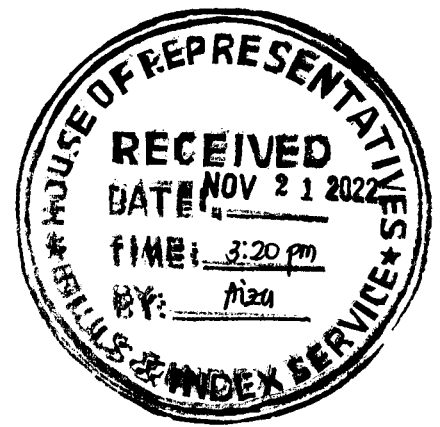


Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila
Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session
HOUSE BILL NO. 6232



Introduced by Rep. Anthony R.T. Golez Jr. MD, MBAH

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to require examinees who passed the medical board examinations to render a one-year medical service in government hospitals or health facilities before the issuance of their certificate of registration, by amending Republic Act (RA) No. 2382, as amended, commonly known as "*The Medical Act of 1959.*"

Section 15, Article II of the 1987 Constitution provides that "*The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them.*"

Corollary, this can be attained not only through the enjoyment of the right to health but also through the formulation and implementation of policies and strategies for the appropriate retraining, regulation and reassessment of the health workforce making it more attuned to the needs of the population.

RA 2382, as amended, among others, provides for and governs the supervision, control, and regulation of the practice of medicine in the Philippines. However, RA 2382, as amended, failed to provide a mechanism that may address the lack of physicians to render medical services in unserved and underserved areas.

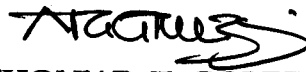
The lack of such mechanism rendered negligible the deployment of medical practitioners to depressed, marginalized, and underserved areas where cost-effective, promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative health services are not available. After passing the physician licensure examination, most physicians choose to practice medicine in private hospitals due to higher pay. As a result, there is a shortage of physicians in government hospitals and local health facilities.

This proposed bill will promote the integration of physicians into the public health and medical service system to ensure their availability in providing quality health services to the least privileged individuals by requiring all passers of physical licensure examination to render a one-year medical service.

The deployment of competent and community-oriented physicians to rural areas will address the lack of medical professionals in unserved and underserved areas. It is not only beneficial to the poor and underprivileged, but it is also beneficial to the newly passed physicians as they will gain experiences that will help them in their profession.

With the one-year medical service, the newly passed physicians will immediately be employed as they will receive appropriate ranks, salaries and benefits. At the end of their medical service, they may also choose to continue serving in their respective areas or in any government hospital, health facility or office as permanent employees of the Department of Health. This one-year medical service is really a win-win solution that will benefit the government, the physicians and the Filipino people.

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



HON. ANTHONY R. T. GOLEZ JR. MD, MBAH
Malasakit at Bayanihan Party List

**Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila
Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session
HOUSE BILL NO. 6232**

Introduced by Rep. Anthony R.T. Golez Jr. MD, MBAH

AN ACT REQUIRING EXAMINEES WHO PASSED THE MEDICAL BOARD EXAMINATIONS TO RENDER A ONE-YEAR MEDICAL SERVICE IN GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS OR HEALTH FACILITIES BEFORE THE ISSUANCE OF THEIR CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 2382, AS AMENDED, COMMONLY KNOWN AS "THE MEDICAL ACT OF 1959"

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

SECTION 1. A new section, denominated as Section 8-A, is inserted after Section 8 of Republic Act No. 2382, as amended, to read as follows:

"SECTION 8-A. MEDICAL SERVICE. - ANY PERSON WHO POSSESSES THE QUALIFICATIONS TO PRACTICE MEDICINE SHALL RENDER A ONE-YEAR MEDICAL SERVICE IN A GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL OR HEALTH FACILITY AFTER PASSING THE MEDICAL BOARD EXAMINATIONS BUT BEFORE RECEIVING THE CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION.

"THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH SHALL INTEGRATE IN THE PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH THE DEPLOYMENT OF PHYSICIANS REQUIRED TO RENDER THE ONE-YEAR MEDICAL SERVICE TO UNSERVED AND

UNDERSERVED AREAS. PHYSICIANS DEPLOYED UNDER THIS SECTION ARE ENTITLED TO APPROPRIATE CIVIL SERVICE RANK, SALARY AND RELATED BENEFITS.

"AFTER THE ONE-YEAR MEDICAL SERVICE, THE MEDICAL BOARD EXAMINERS SHALL ISSUE THE CORRESPONDING CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION AND THE PHYSICIAN MAY CHOOSE TO STAY AND SERVE IN THE AREA WHERE THE PHYSICIAN IS DEPLOYED OR IN ANY GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL, FACILITY OR HEALTH OFFICES AS PERMANENT EMPLOYEE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH."

SEC. 2. Section 12 of RA 2382, as amended, is further amended to read as follows:

"Section 12. Limited practice without any certificate of registration. – Certificates of registration shall not be required of the following persons:

"a. Xxx.

"b. Xxx.

"c. Xxx.

"D. MEDICAL BOARD EXAMINATION PASSERS WHO HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED THEIR CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION AND ARE REQUIRED TO RENDER MEDICAL SERVICE UNDER

**SECTION 8-A OF THIS ACT ARE AUTHORIZED TO PRACTICE
MEDICINE."**

SEC. 3. All laws, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations, or parts inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

