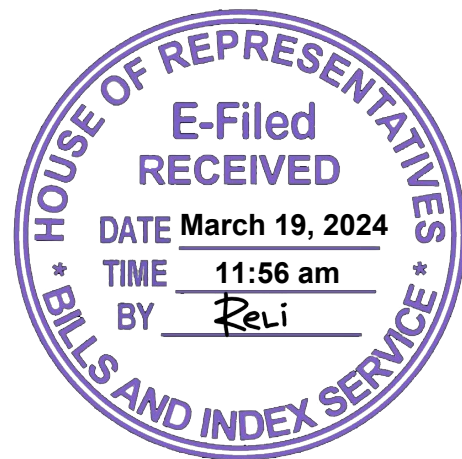


NINETEENTH CONGRESS)
OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

House Bill No. 10177

Introduced by Representative Jaime D. Cojuangco

AN ACT
SETTING THE MINIMUM COMPENSATION OF BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The State's policy in Article XIII, Section 11 of the 1987 Constitution enunciates: "The State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other services available to all the people at affordable cost."

At the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic, our Barangay Health Workers were one of the first who responded to assist and provide health services to those affected by the disease. As frontliners, Barangay Health Workers play an essential role in performing basic health services that people need in the barangay level.

Although Republic Act No. 7883 or the "Barangay Health Workers' Benefits and Incentives Act of 1995" was enacted to provide incentives and benefits to our barangay health workers such as hazard and subsistence allowances, the present law is insufficient in providing for a reasonable compensation to our Barangay Health Workers.

This enactment is a measure to foster dedicated and faithful performance of duties of our Barangay Health workers which is crucial to the efficient and meaningful administration of the barangay as the basic political unit of our government, especially in making health services accessible to people.

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


Jaime D. Cojuangco
Representative - 1st District, Tarlac

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House Bill No. 10177

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AN ACT
SETTING THE MINIMUM COMPENSATION OF BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS

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

Section 1. ***Minimum Compensation for accredited Barangay Health Workers.*** – In addition to the benefits and incentives authorized under Republic Act No. 7883, accredited barangay health workers shall be compensated in an amount not less than Three Thousand Pesos (Php 3,000.00) per month.

Sec. 2. Membership in the National Health Insurance Program of the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation. – All accredited barangay health workers shall be enrolled into the National Health Insurance Program in accordance with Republic Act 11223, otherwise known as the “Universal Health Care Act”.

Sec. 3. Coverage. – This Act shall apply to all accredited Barangay Health Workers; Provided, That when the barangay health worker receives a fixed salary by virtue of a permanent appointment in any government office, by election to another public office, their coverage under this Act shall automatically cease and they shall then be covered under other appropriate laws.

Sec. 4. Number of Barangay Health Workers. - There shall be an appropriate number of barangay health workers in each barangay in consideration of the number of households in a barangay. Such number of barangay health workers shall be determined by the Department of Health (DOH) in consultation with the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG): Provided, That the total number of barangay health workers per barangay shall not be less than two (2), nor more than one percent (1%) of the barangay's total population.

Sec. 5. **Funding.** – The amount necessary for the compensation herein authorized shall be chargeable to the barangay or the city or municipality to which the barangays belong: PROVIDED, That the national government may provide such financial assistance as may be reasonable and necessary for the purpose to fourth, fifth, and sixth class local government units concerned.

Sec. 6. **Amendment.** – Republic Act No. 7883 or the Barangay Health Workers' Benefits and Incentives Act of 1995" and other pertinent provisions of Republic Act No. 7160 or the "Local Government Code" are hereby amended or modified accordingly.

Sec. 7. **Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), Department of Health (DOH), and Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), in consultation with the leagues of the barangays, cities and municipalities, and existing health workers union and barangay health workers organizations, shall issue the implementing rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Sec. 8. **Non-diminution of benefits.** – Nothing in this Act shall be construed to eliminate or in any manner diminish entitlements, or other benefits being provided to or enjoyed by barangay health workers under Republic Act No. 7883 or other laws and issuances.

Sec. 9. **Separability Clause.** – If any provision or portion of this Act is subsequently declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not thereby affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Sec. 10. **Repealing Clause.** - All laws, decrees, executive orders, ordinances, rules, regulations, and other issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with any provision of this Act, are hereby repealed, amended, and/or modified accordingly.

Sec. 11. **Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,