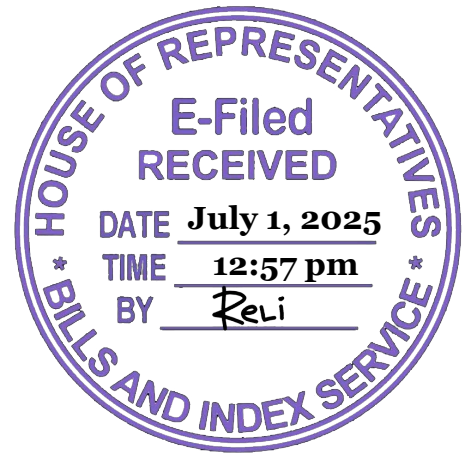


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 784

Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE MERCEDES K. ALVAREZ, MNSA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill aims to establish dialysis clinics in all national, regional, provincial, and strategically located district hospitals, and to ensure free dialysis treatment for indigent patients.

Chronic Kidney Disease progressing to end-stage renal failure remains a major contributor to reduced quality of life and premature death. Proper medical care requires the timely referral of patients to specialists for the initiation of dialysis.

While PhilHealth has raised the number of subsidized dialysis sessions, the financial burden remains high, as standard treatment often involves three sessions per week. Missing sessions can lead to severe complications and even death. Under this proposed legislation, a comprehensive dialysis benefit package will be provided to cover all costs associated with hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis treatments, procedures, and sessions for indigent patients.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Mercedes K. Alvarez".

ATTY. MERCEDES K. ALVAREZ, MNSA

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TWENTIETH CONGRESS
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HOUSE BILL NO. 784

Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE MERCEDES K. ALVAREZ, MNSA

AN ACT
REQUIRING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIALYSIS CLINICS IN ALL
NATIONAL, REGIONAL, PROVINCIAL AND STRATEGIC DISTRICT
HOSPITALS, PROVIDING FOR FREE DIALYSIS TREATMENTS TO
INDIGENT PATIENTS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 Section 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "Dialysis Center Act".

2
3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to improve the
4 delivery of health care services and to ensure that hospital facilities are available,
5 affordable, and accessible to the Filipino people.

6
7 Sec. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – For purposes of this Act, the following terms shall
8 mean the following:

9
10 a) "Secretary" refers to the Secretary of the Department of Health;

11
12 b) "National Government Hospital" refers to a hospital operated and
13 maintained either partially or wholly by the National Government or by any
14 department or division, board, or other agency thereof;

15

1 c) "Regional Government Hospital" refers to a hospital operated and
2 maintained either partially or wholly by the National Government or by any
3 department, division, board or other agency thereof;

4
5 d) "Provincial Government Hospital" refers to a hospital operated and
6 maintained either partially or wholly by the Provincial Government or by
7 any department, division, board or other agency thereof;

8
9 e) "Strategic District Government Hospital" refers to a hospital, selected by the
10 Provincial Government as strategic in location, operated and maintained
11 either partially or wholly by the Provincial Government or by any
12 department, division, board or other agency thereof; and

13
14 f) "Indigent Patient" refers to a patient whose combined annual family income
15 does not exceed Thirty Thousand Pesos (P30,000.00).
16

17 *Sec. 4. Establishment, Operation, and Maintenance of a Dialysis Ward or*
18 *Unit.* – Within two (2) years from the effectivity of this Act, all national, regional,
19 provincial, and strategic district government hospitals are hereby required to
20 establish, operate, and maintain a dialysis ward in their hospital. The dialysis ward or
21 unit shall be equipped with the complete dialysis machine, equipment and supplies.

22
23 *Sec. 5. Free Dialysis Treatment to Indigent Patients.* – Dialysis treatment in all
24 national, regional, provincial and strategic district government hospitals shall be
25 provided free of charge to indigent patients as defined in Section 3 (f) hereof.

26
27 *Sec. 6. Penalty.* – The head, administrator, or officer-in-charge of any national,
28 regional, provincial, and strategic district government hospital who fails to comply
29 with this Act shall be punished with a fine of Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000.00) but
30 not more than One Hundred Thousand pesos (P100,000.00).

31
32 *Sec. 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within one (1) year from the
33 effectivity of this Act, the Secretary shall provide the Implementing Rules and

1 Regulations (“IRR”) necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act. The IRR shall be
2 published in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

3
4 Sec. 8. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to implement the provisions
5 of this Act is hereby authorized to be appropriated from the current General
6 Appropriations Act. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the continuous
7 implementation of this Act shall be included in annual general appropriations of the
8 national, regional, provincial, and strategic district government hospitals.

9
10 Sec. 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any part or provision of this Act is declared
11 invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts of this Act or any provision not
12 affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

13
14 Sec. 10. *Repealing Clause.* – All other laws, presidential decrees, executive
15 orders, and other administrative issuances, rules, regulations or parts thereof which
16 are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby modified, superseded, or
17 repealed accordingly.

18
19 Sec. 11. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its
20 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation in the
21 Philippines.

22
Approved,