



**Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City, Metro Manila**

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

House Bill No. 1374



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**INTRODUCED BY Rep. ZIAUR-RAHMAN ALONTO ADIONG**

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### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The right to health is a fundamental human right enshrined in the 1987 Philippine Constitution, which mandates the State to adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development. As such, public health insurance programs like the National Health Insurance Program (NHIP), administered by the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth), must continuously evolve to be inclusive and responsive to the needs of Filipino families.

This bill seeks to amend Republic Act No. 7875, as amended by R.A. 9241 and R.A. 10606, by expanding the definition of "dependent" to ensure that more vulnerable and marginalized family members of PhilHealth members are afforded access to health services.

Specifically, the bill includes individuals with psychosocial and neurodevelopmental disabilities within the scope of qualified dependents. These conditions are often overlooked despite their profound and lasting impact on a person's ability to live independently and access healthcare without financial burden.

To ensure integrity in implementation, the bill mandates that the determination of incapacity be made in accordance with guidelines to be set by the National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA), with certification from appropriate government agencies such as the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the Department of Health (DOH), or the local government unit's Disability Affairs Office.

Ultimately, this measure strengthens our public health safety net by acknowledging the evolving needs of Filipino families, particularly those caring for persons with disabilities. It is a step forward in the nation's commitment to inclusive healthcare, disability rights, and social protection.

  
**REP. ZIAUR-RAHMAN ALONTO ADIONG**  
**1<sup>st</sup> District, Lanao Del Sur**



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**AN ACT**  
**AMENDING R.A. NO. 7875 OR THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE**  
**ACT OF 1995 AS AMENDED BY R.A. NO. 9241 AND R.A. NO. 10606**  
**TO EXPAND THE DEFINITION OF DEPENDENT**

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

**Section 1. DEPENDENTS.** Section 4(f) of Republic Act No.7875, as amended by R.A.No.9241 and further amended by R.A. No.10606, shall be amended further to read as:

XXX

f) Dependent - The legal dependents of a member are:

- 1) the legitimate spouse who is not a member;
- 2) the unmarried and unemployed legitimate, legitimated, illegitimate, acknowledged children as appearing in the birth certificate; legally adopted or step-children below twenty-one (21) years of age;
- 3) children who are twenty-one (21) years old and above but suffering from congenital disability, either physical, mental, **PSYCHOSOCIAL, NEURODEVELOPMENTAL**, or any disability acquired that renders them **MAINLY** dependent on the member for support;
- (4) the parents who are sixty (60) years old or above whose monthly income is below an amount to be determined by the Corporation in accordance with the guiding principles set forth in Article I of this Act; and
- "(5) parents with permanent disability that render them totally dependent on the member for subsistence.

**THE DETERMINATION OF INCAPACITY MUST FOLLOW GUIDELINES TO BE SET BY THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS AND MAY BE CERTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT OR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH OR BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT'S DISABILITY AFFAIRS OFFICE.**

**XXX**

**Section 2. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS.** The Government Service Insurance System shall make the necessary changes to incorporate the following changes into the existing IRR of Republic Act 7875, as amended by R.A. 9241 and further amended by R.A. 10606 within 60 days from the effectivity of this Act.

**Section 3. APPROPRIATIONS.** The funds necessary for the implementation of the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual appropriations of each agency concerned.

**Section 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.

**Section 5. REPEALING CLAUSE.** The provision of Republic Act 7875, as amended by R.A. 9241 and further amended by R.A. 10606 is hereby amended. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Act, all other laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations and administrative regulations or parts thereof inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**Section 6. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,