

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 2032

Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE MERCEDES K. ALVAREZ, MNSA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to promote the health and well-being of Filipino senior citizens by providing them with monthly financial support specifically for their maintenance medications. In accordance with the 1987 Philippine Constitution, which mandates the State to prioritize the health needs of the elderly and other vulnerable sectors, this proposed measure institutionalizes the Monthly Maintenance Medication Support in the amount of One Thousand Pesos (₱1,000) per month.

Accordingly, qualified senior citizens who are registered under Republic Act No. 9994, otherwise known as the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010, and have a valid prescription for maintenance medicines will be eligible to receive the said support. The assistance is intended solely for the purchase of prescription medications, vitamins, and supplements essential to managing chronic illnesses and maintaining their health. The goal of this measure is to improve the quality of life of senior citizens by alleviating their financial burden for essential medications, thereby enabling them to remain active and healthy members of society.

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


ATTY. MERCEDES K. ALVAREZ, MNSA

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2032

Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE MERCEDES K. ALVAREZ, MNSA

AN ACT
PROVIDING MONTHLY MAINTENANCE MEDICATION SUPPORT FOR
SENIOR CITIZENS

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

1 Section 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Monthly Maintenance
2 Medication Support Act for Senior Citizens”.

3
4 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* — In consonance with Section 11, Article XIII of
5 the 1987 Philippine Constitution which provides that the State shall adopt an
6 integrated and comprehensive approach to health and other social services available
7 to all people at affordable cost, giving priority to the underprivileged, sick, elderly,
8 disabled, women and children, it is hereby declared the policy of the State to protect
9 and promote the health and well-being of elderly citizens for their continued
10 meaningful contribution and participation in society. This Act seeks to provide
11 monthly financial assistance to senior citizens, enabling them to access and afford
12 necessary maintenance medications, thereby enhancing their quality of life and health
13 outcomes.

14
15 Sec. 3. *Monthly Maintenance Medication Support.* – The government shall
16 provide monthly financial support amounting to One thousand pesos (P1,000) to all
17 senior citizens, hereinafter referred to as "beneficiaries," who are qualified and

1 registered as such under Republic Act No. 9994, otherwise known as the Expanded
2 Senior Citizens Act of 2010.

3
4 Sec. 4. *Eligibility and Registration.* – To qualify for the Monthly Maintenance
5 Medication Support, a senior citizen must meet the following criteria:

6 (a) Be a Filipino citizen and a registered senior citizen as defined in Republic
7 Act No. 9994; and

8 (b) Submit an application to the Department of Health (“DOH”) or its
9 designated agency, accompanied by a valid prescription for maintenance
10 medications issued by a licensed medical practitioner within the last six
11 (6) months from the date of application; and

12 Once approved, beneficiaries shall be issued a Monthly Maintenance
13 Medication Support Card.

14
15 Sec. 5. *Use of the Monthly Maintenance Medication Support.* – The Monthly
16 Maintenance Medication Support shall be used exclusively to purchase prescribed
17 maintenance medications, including but not limited to medicines for chronic illnesses,
18 vitamins, and supplements, from all public or private pharmaceutical establishments
19 upon presentment of a prescription validly issued within the last six (6) months from
20 the date of purchase. The Monthly Maintenance Medication Support shall not be
21 transferrable to any person other than the person to which the same is provided as
22 named in the Monthly Maintenance Medication Support Card. The unused portion of
23 the support shall not be convertible to cash.

24
25 Sec. 6. *Implementation and Coordination.* – The DOH shall be responsible for
26 the implementation of this Act and shall coordinate with other relevant agencies,
27 including the Department of Social Welfare and Development (“DSWD”), to ensure
28 the efficient distribution of the Monthly Maintenance Medication Support.

29
30 Sec. 7. *Monitoring and Reporting.* – The DOH shall establish a monitoring
31 system to track the utilization of the Monthly Maintenance Medication Support and
32 submit an annual report to Congress detailing the effectiveness and impact of the
33 program on the health and well-being of senior citizens.

1 Sec. 8. *Penalties.* – Any person who commits fraud, misrepresentation, or any
2 form of abuse in the application or use of the Monthly Maintenance Medication
3 Support shall be subject to penalties as prescribed by law.

4
5 Sec. 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The DOH, in coordination with
6 the DSWD and other relevant agencies, shall promulgate the necessary rules and
7 regulations to effectively implement this Act within ninety (90) days from its
8 effectivity.

9
10 Sec. 10. *Separability Clause.* - If any part, section, or provision of this Act is
11 held invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions not affected shall remain in full force
12 and effect.

13
14 Sec. 11. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations or
15 parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

16
17 Sec. 12. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
18 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

19
20
Approved,