

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 3511

Introduced by Representative Edsel A. Galeos

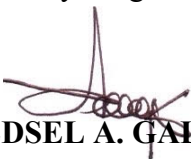
EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II Section 15 of the 1987 Constitution states that the State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them. To this end, the fundamental law of the land also mandates that the State adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all people at affordable cost. In accordance with the directive of the Constitution, the proposed measure aims to provide free annual medical check-up for Filipinos.

The need for free and accessible annual medical check-up is anchored in the broader goal of strengthening preventive healthcare in the country. In a recent statement¹, the Department of Health (DOH) emphasized the importance of promoting preventive healthcare as it can significantly ease hospital overcrowding, one of the most pressing issues faced by the country's healthcare system.

Preventive healthcare does not only benefit the healthcare system as a whole but also every Filipino. It promotes individual well-being and addresses the growing burden of chronic diseases. Chronic conditions must be managed as early as possible to prevent complications that often lead to higher treatment costs and poorer health outcomes. Focusing on early detection and timely intervention are not only vital in managing chronic diseases. It is also important to observe these in addressing serious illnesses such as cancer.

For the foregoing reasons, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


EDSEL A. GALEOS

¹ GMA News Online, *PH needs strong preventive care – DOH*, available at <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/topstories/nation/941002/ph-needs-stronger-preventive-care-doh/story/> (last updated March 29, 2025).

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**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A FREE ANNUAL MEDICAL CHECK-UP FOR
FILIPINOS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

*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 “Free Annual Medical
2 Check-Up Act.”
3

4 **SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – It is the policy of the State to support and
5 promote the right to health by enhancing programs which focus on preventative and
6 curative medicine that advance the health and well-being of Filipinos, and prevent
7 disease, disability, and death. Pursuant thereto, Filipinos shall be entitled to an annual
8 medical check-up that is free of charge in any government hospital and institution.
9

10 **SECTION 3. *Coverage.*** – All Filipino Citizens, by virtue of their membership in
11 the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) mandated under Republic Act
12 No. 11223, or the “Universal Health Care Law,” shall be entitled to the applicable
13 benefits under the Philippine Health Insurance Program.
14

15 Members shall be entitled to a free annual medical check-up, the coverage of
16 which shall be determined by PhilHealth. Laboratory and diagnostic tests shall be
17 expanded, subject to the availability of PhilHealth funds.
18

19 **SECTION 4. *Schedule of Free Medical Check-Up.*** – To promote health,
20 identify risks, and ensure early diagnosis, PhilHealth shall establish a system that allows
21 access to a free annual medical check-up and ensure that Filipinos are accorded the
22 quality health care service they deserve.
23

24 **SECTION 5. *Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary to implement this Act
25 shall be charged against PhilHealth funds.
26

27 **SECTION 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within sixty (60) days
28 from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Health and the PhilHealth shall
29 promulgate the necessary guidelines for the effective implementation of this Act.
30

1 **SECTION 7. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act is declared
2 unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, the validity of the other provisions shall not be
3 affected thereby.

4
5 **SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and
6 regulations, other issuances, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act
7 are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

8
9 **SECTION 9. *Effectivity Clause.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
10 after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

11
12 Approved,