

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS

House Bill No. **3716**



Introduced by Representative Timothy Joseph Cayton

**"AN ACT PROVIDING ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR
DIALYSIS PATIENTS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES"**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

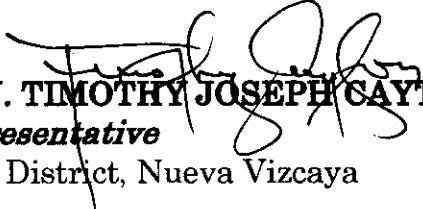
Chronic Kidney Disease remains a growing public health crisis in the country. Thousands of Filipinos rely on dialysis treatment several times a week. However, the costs of these treatments, together with laboratory examinations, medicines, and mobilization, place a heavy financial burden on patients and their families.

While the government programs such as PhilHealth, Malasakit Centers, and the Department of Health (DOH)'s Medical Assistance to Indigent and Financially Incapacitated Patients (MAIFIP) support those indigent patients, the reality is that these measures are not enough. Many patients quickly exhaust their benefits and still face huge out-of-pocket expenses. This often leads to interrupted treatments, poor health outcomes, and, tragically, deaths.

This bill seeks to subsidize the cost of dialysis sessions beyond those covered by government interventions, assist with laboratory procedures and medicines, and even provide incidental allowances for indigent patients.

The measure aims to reduce the horrible financial impact of chronic kidney disease on Filipino families, and improve survival and quality of life for thousands of dialysis patients nationwide.

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


HON. TIMOTHY JOSEPH CAYTON
Representative
Lone District, Nueva Vizcaya

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

SECTION 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “**Dialysis Patients’ Assistance Act.**”

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to protect and promote the right to health of the people, and to ensure that lifesaving treatments are accessible to all, especially the poor and vulnerable.

Recognizing the high cost of dialysis treatments, this Act seeks provide supplementary financial assistance that shall be over and above existing programs such as PhilHealth benefits, Malasakit Centers, Department of Health (DOH) Medical Assistance for Indigent Patients (MAIP), and other government aid.

SEC. 3. *Coverage.* — All Filipino citizens diagnosed with chronic kidney disease requiring dialysis shall be covered. Priority shall be given to indigent, low-income, and unemployed patients, as certified by DSWD or the Local Social Welfare Office.

SEC. 4. *Benefits.* – The assistance provided under this Act shall be separate from and in addition to existing benefits and programs of the government. No provision of this Act shall be interpreted to reduce, replace, or limit the benefits from PhilHealth, Malasakit Centers, DOH programs, PCSO, PAGCOR, LGUs, or other agencies.

SEC. 5. *Appropriation.* – The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA).

SEC. 6. *Implementing Agencies and Implementing Rules and Regulations.*
– The Department of Health (DOH) shall be the lead implementing agency for this Act, in coordination with the PhilHealth, Department of Social Work and Development (DSWD). These agencies shall promulgate the necessary implementing rules and regulations within **ninety (90) days** after the effectivity of this Act.

SEC. 7. *Separability Clause.* –If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation, contrary to, or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

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

Approved,