

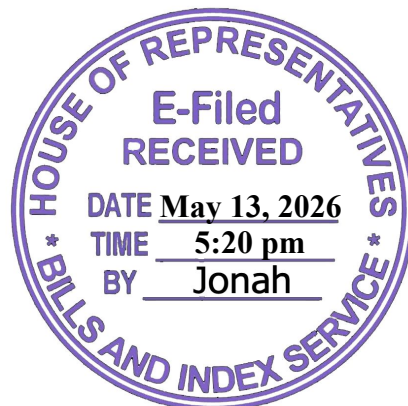


Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 9260



Introduced by Representative Jernie Jett V. Nisay

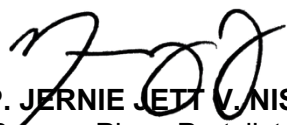
EXPLANATORY NOTE

Chronic kidney disease (CKD) remains a significant public health concern in the Philippines, with thousands of patients requiring regular dialysis to survive. However, access to dialysis services remains limited, particularly in public hospitals outside major urban centers, and the high cost of treatment continues to impose a heavy financial burden on patients and their families¹.

This bill seeks to require all national, regional, and provincial government hospitals to establish and maintain dialysis wards or units, ensuring that life-saving treatment becomes more accessible across the country. It further mandates the provision of free dialysis treatment to indigent patients, recognizing the State's duty to make healthcare services available, accessible, and affordable to all.

By strengthening the capacity of government hospitals and expanding access to essential health services, this measure supports the implementation of the Universal Health Care Act (Republic Act No. 11223) and promotes equitable health outcomes, particularly for vulnerable sectors.

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


REP. JERNIE JETT V. NISAY
Pusong Pinoy Partylist

¹ Philippine Society of Nephrology. (2022). *Philippine Renal Disease Registry Annual Report*.



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AN ACT

REQUIRING ALL NATIONAL, REGIONAL, AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS TO ESTABLISH, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN A DIALYSIS WARD OR UNIT IN THEIR RESPECTIVE HOSPITAL AND PROVIDING FREE DIALYSIS TREATMENT TO INDIGENT PATIENTS

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Dialysis Center Act".

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is the declared policy of the State to improve the delivery of health care services to the people and to ensure hospital facilities are available, affordable and accessible to the people.

SEC. 3. Definition of Terms. - For purposes of this Act, the following terms shall mean:

- (a) "National Government Hospital" shall refer to a hospital operated and maintained either partially or wholly by the national government or by any department, division, board or other agency thereof;
- (b) "Regional Government Hospital" shall refer to a hospital operated and maintained either partially or wholly by the national government or by any department, division, board or other agency thereof;
- (c) "Provincial Government Hospital" shall refer to a hospital operated and maintained either partially or wholly by the provincial government or other political subdivision, or by any department, division, board or agency thereof; and
- (d) "Indigent Patient" shall refer to a patient who has no visible means of income, or whose income is insufficient for the subsistence of his/her family, as

1 assessed by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD),
2 local government social worker, Municipal Social Worker of the health
3 facility, or a social worker of any government entity providing medical and
4 financial assistance.

5 **SEC. 4. *Establishment, Operation and Maintenance of a Dialysis Ward or Unit.* -**

6 Within two (2) years from the effectivity of this Act, all national, regional, and provincial
7 government hospitals are hereby required to establish, operate and maintain a dialysis
8 ward or unit in their hospital. The dialysis ward or unit shall be equipped with complete
9 dialysis machine, equipment, and supplies.

10
11 **SEC. 5. *Free Dialysis Treatment to Indigent Patients.* -** Dialysis treatment in all
12 national, regional, and provincial government hospitals shall be provided free of charge
13 to indigent patients as defined in Section 3(d) hereof.

14
15 **SEC. 6. *Penalty.* -** Any hospital chief, administrator or officer-in-charge who fails to
16 comply with this Act shall be punished with a fine of Fifty Thousand Pesos (PHP
17 50,000.00), but not more than One Hundred Thousand Pesos (PHP 100,000.00).

18
19 **SEC. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* -** Within sixty (60) days upon the
20 effectivity of this Act, the Department of Health (DOH) shall promulgate the necessary
21 rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

22
23 **SEC. 8. *Appropriations.* -** The sum necessary for the effective implementation of this
24 Act shall be taken from the current applicable appropriations of the Department of
25 Health (DOH) and overall savings of the National Government. Thereafter, funds for its
26 continued implementation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

27
28 **SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.* -** If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or
29 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall
30 remain valid and subsisting.

31
32 **SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.* -** Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
33 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or
34 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified or amended
35 accordingly.

36
37 **SEC. 11. *Effectivity.* -** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in
38 at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

39
40 Approved,