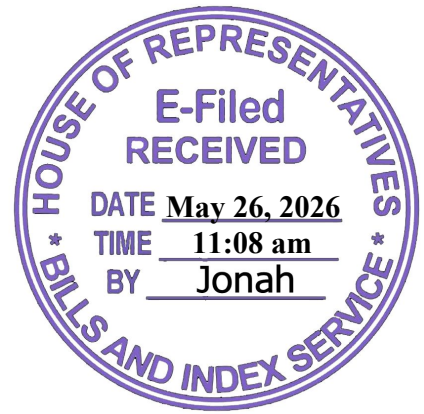


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 9423



Introduced by Representative JEFFREY SORIANO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to provide all Filipinos access to a free annual medical check-up as a fundamental preventive health intervention that promotes early detection, timely management of disease, and improved overall health outcomes.

In the Philippines, many illnesses go undiagnosed until they reach advanced and more costly stages, often due to financial barriers and inadequate access to routine screening. This measure advances a more preventive, accessible, and people-centered approach to health care. It covers annual medical check-ups, including essential laboratory tests such as blood sugar and cholesterol screening, and provides for the expansion of diagnostic services subject to available resources. It strengthens access to basic preventive services, enables early identification of health risks and chronic conditions, reduces avoidable complications, lowers long-term treatment costs, and eases pressure on the health system.

The bill gives stronger effect to the preventive and promotive principles of Republic Act No. 11223, otherwise known as the "*Universal Health Care Act*", by institutionalizing regular health monitoring and prioritizing early intervention over costly, late-stage treatment. It reflects a policy direction grounded in evidence-based governance and the long-standing consensus among health professionals that prevention is both more humane and more efficient than cure.

Countless families continue to face financial catastrophe due to medical expenses, while preventable diseases persist as a major public health concern. Ensuring universal access to routine, preventive care is therefore a necessary intervention that strengthens individual well-being, promotes health equity, and enhances the overall resilience of the health system.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey Soriano", written over a horizontal line.

HON. JEFFREY SORIANO

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TWENTIETH CONGRESS
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House Bill No. **9423**

Introduced by Representative JEFFREY SORIANO

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

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

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

SEC. 3. *Coverage.* – All Filipino Citizens, by virtue of their membership in the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) mandated under Republic Act No. 11223, otherwise known as the “*Universal Health Care Act*”, shall be entitled to the applicable benefits under the Philippine Health Insurance Program.

Members shall be entitled to a free annual medical check-up that shall include blood sugar and cholesterol tests. Laboratory and diagnostic tests shall be expanded, subject to the availability of PhilHealth funds.

SEC. 4. *Schedule of Free Medical Check-Up.* – To promote health, identify risks, and ensure early diagnosis, PhilHealth shall establish a system that allows access to a free annual medical check-up and ensure that Filipinos shall be accorded the quality health care services that they deserve.

SEC. 5. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to implement this Act shall be charged against the PhilHealth funds.

SEC. 6. *Schedule of Free Medical Check-Up.* – To promote health, identify risks, and ensure early diagnosis, PhilHealth shall establish a system that allows access to a free

annual medical check-up and ensure that Filipinos shall be accorded the quality health care services that they deserve.

SEC. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Department of Health shall, in coordination with PhilHealth, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act not later than ninety (90) days from its effectivity.

SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.* – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions hereof shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

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

Approved,