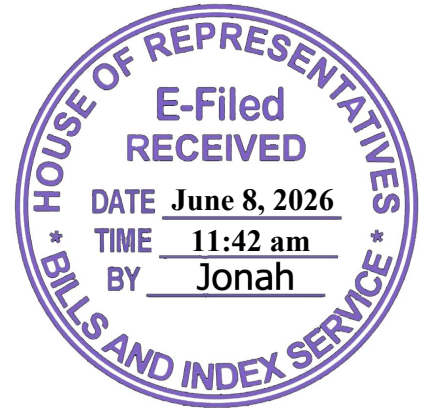


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 9819



Introduced by: **REPRESENTATIVE ERIC L. OLIVAREZ**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

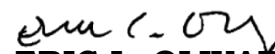
The State recognizes the right of every Filipino to health and adopts an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development. Senior citizens, who are among the most vulnerable sectors of society, are particularly susceptible to chronic kidney disease and other renal illnesses that require regular dialysis treatments for survival.

Despite existing government health programs, many senior citizens continue to face significant financial burdens arising from the costs of hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis, renal replacement therapies, related laboratory procedures, medicines, and supplies. For elderly patients who rely mainly on limited pensions or family support, the continuing expenses associated with dialysis often result in delayed treatment, financial hardship, and reduced quality of life.

This measure seeks to guarantee full coverage of medically necessary hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis, and other Department of Health-approved renal replacement therapies for all senior citizens through PhilHealth-accredited health facilities, thereby ensuring that no elderly Filipino is deprived of life-sustaining treatment due to financial constraints.

By strengthening health protection for senior citizens and promoting equitable access to essential healthcare services, this bill advances the constitutional mandate to protect and promote the right to health of the people.

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


ERIC L. OLIVAREZ

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TWENTIETH CONGRESS
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Introduced by: **REPRESENTATIVE ERIC L. OLIVAREZ**

**“AN ACT
PROVIDING FREE HEMODIALYSIS, PERITONEAL DIALYSIS,
AND OTHER RENAL REPLACEMENT THERAPIES FOR SENIOR
CITIZENS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

*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 Dialysis and Renal Replacement Therapy for Senior Citizens Act.*"

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is hereby declared the
policy of the State to protect and promote the health and well-being
of senior citizens by ensuring equitable, affordable, and timely access
to life-sustaining dialysis and renal replacement therapies, consistent
with the Constitution, the Universal Health Care Act, and laws
protecting senior citizens.

**SECTION 3. Full Coverage of Dialysis and Renal
Replacement Therapy for Senior Citizens.** – All senior citizens who
are medically diagnosed with chronic kidney disease or other renal
conditions requiring renal replacement therapy shall be entitled to full
coverage of medically necessary hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis, and
other Department of Health (DOH)-approved dialysis or renal
replacement therapies through PhilHealth-accredited health facilities.

PhilHealth shall provide full reimbursement for such services,
including necessary renal replacement therapies, professional fees,
medicines, laboratory examinations, and medical supplies directly
related to the treatment, in accordance with standards jointly
prescribed by the DOH and PhilHealth.

No qualified senior citizen shall be charged any co-payment, balance billing, or other out-of-pocket expense for covered services under this Act.

SECTION 4. Funding. – The amounts necessary to implement this Act shall be sourced from PhilHealth funds, appropriations authorized under the General Appropriations Act, and such other sources as may be provided by law. The DOH and PhilHealth shall ensure the availability of funds necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

SECTION 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within ninety (90) days from the approval of this Act, the DOH, PhilHealth, and the National Commission on Senior Citizens (NCSC), in coordination with other implementing agencies, shall formulate rules and guidelines as may be necessary for the proper implementation and enforcement of this Act.

SECTION 6. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions or sections of this Act and the application of such provision or section to other persons or circumstances, not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 7. Repealing Clause. – All laws, presidential decrees or issuances, executive orders, letters of instruction, administrative orders, rules or regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

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

Approved.