



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

20th CONGRESS
2nd Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **10398**



Introduced by Representative SITTIE SHAHARA "BAI DIMPLE" I. MASTURA

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 287 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991, FOR THE PURPOSE OF REQUIRING LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO EARMARK AT LEAST FIFTEEN PERCENT (15%) OF THEIR NATIONAL TAX ALLOTMENT SHARE FOR HEALTH SERVICES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to impose on local government units the obligation to earmark at least fifteen percent (15%) of their National Tax Allotment Share for health services.

The Philippine healthcare system is a complex network of public and private healthcare providers, health insurance programs, and government initiatives to improve the health and well-being of all Filipinos, regardless of socio-economic status.

It has been notably observed, however, that many of the indigent patients, while appropriately attended to, diagnosed, and prescribed medication, are nonetheless helpless moving forward because of a lack of funds to cover even the basic cost of medicines.

Medical attention without the concomitant medicines religiously administered to patients is meaningless.

Poverty or being poor deprives the patient of the opportunity to be cured even with the advent of rapid advancements in technology and recent medical discoveries because medicines are hardly affordable.

The most appropriate source of funds for free medicines is the National Tax Allotment Share of local government units, by setting aside a percentage of the NTA share for the acquisition of medicines.

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

SITTIE SHAHARA "BAI DIMPLE" I. MASTURA

Representative

Lone District, Maguindanao del Norte with Cotabato City



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

20th CONGRESS
2nd Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **10398**

Introduced by Representative SITTIE SHAHARA “BAI DIMPLE” I. MASTURA

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 287 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991, FOR THE PURPOSE OF REQUIRING LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO EARMARK AT LEAST FIFTEEN PERCENT (15%) OF THEIR NATIONAL TAX ALLOTMENT SHARE FOR HEALTH SERVICES

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

SECTION 1. Section 287 of Republic Act No. 7160, as amended, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 287. Local Development Projects **AND HEALTH SERVICES.** – Each local government unit shall appropriate in its annual budget no less than twenty percent (20%), **AND FIFTEEN PERCENT (15%)** of its annual **NATIONAL TAX** [internal-revenue] allotment for development projects **AND HEALTH SERVICES RESPECTIVELY.** Copies of the development plans **AND HEALTH PROGRAMS, INCLUDING PROVISION OF FREE MEDICINES TO INDIGENT PATIENTS,** of local government units shall be furnished the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) **AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH).**”

HEALTH PROGRAMS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS SHALL BE APPROVED BY THE LOCAL HEALTH BOARDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STANDARDS AND CRITERIA SET BY THE DOH PURSUANT TO PERTINENT PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11223, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE ACT.”

SEC. 2. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Finance (DOF), Department of Budget and Management (DBM), Department of Health (DOH), and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) shall jointly promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the implementation of this Act.

SEC. 3. All laws, decrees, executive orders, presidential proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,