

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 10472



INTRODUCED BY REP. PATRICK MICHAEL “PM” D. VARGAS

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL PREVENTIVE HEALTH PROMOTION FUND,
STRENGTHENING POPULATION-BASED PREVENTIVE HEALTH
PROGRAMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The State recognizes that the health of the Filipino people is a fundamental right and a cornerstone of national development. While significant strides have been made through the enactment of Republic Act No. 11223, the Philippine health system continues to face persistent challenges arising from the growing burden of preventable diseases and the insufficient prioritization of preventive health interventions.

Recent data from the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) underscore the urgency of strengthening preventive health care. As of 2025, the leading causes of death in the Philippines remain non-communicable diseases, with ischemic heart diseases accounting for 19.7% of total deaths, followed by neoplasms at 11.4%, and cerebrovascular diseases at 9.8%. Diabetes mellitus likewise ranks among the top causes of mortality. These conditions are largely preventable and manageable through early detection, sustained health promotion, and timely intervention.

Complementing these findings, the Department of Health (DOH), through its National Objectives for Health 2023–2028, highlights the continuing burden of preventable health risks, including a premature mortality rate attributable to non-communicable diseases at 4.6 per 1,000 population, as well as persistent

public health concerns such as child stunting at 27% and maternal mortality at 144 per 100,000 live births. These indicators demonstrate that despite existing programs, significant gaps remain in prevention, early intervention, and health promotion across the life course.

The predominance of preventable diseases has resulted in increasing health care costs, overburdened hospitals, and avoidable loss of life. The current health financing structure continues to favor curative and hospital-based services, while investments in population-based preventive programs remain fragmented and insufficiently funded. Although preventive services are recognized under the Universal Health Care framework, there is no dedicated and sustained funding mechanism that ensures the systematic implementation of large-scale health promotion and disease prevention programs nationwide.

International and local evidence consistently demonstrates that investing in preventive health care yields substantial social and economic benefits. Prevention reduces the incidence and severity of disease, lowers long-term health expenditures, improves productivity, and enhances overall quality of life. Strengthening preventive health programs is therefore essential not only for improving health outcomes but also for ensuring the sustainability of the country's health system.

This measure seeks to address these gaps by establishing a National Preventive Health Promotion Fund that will provide a stable and dedicated source of financing for population-based preventive health programs. The proposed Fund will support nationwide health promotion campaigns, community-based screening and early detection initiatives, lifestyle modification programs, and other evidence-based interventions aimed at reducing health risks and preventing disease. It likewise strengthens the capacity of local government units and community health systems to deliver preventive services effectively and equitably.

Importantly, this bill is designed to complement, and not duplicate, the provisions of Republic Act No. 11223. While the Universal Health Care Act provides the overarching framework for health system governance and service delivery, this measure focuses specifically on ensuring that preventive health programs are adequately financed, implemented, and sustained at the population level.

By institutionalizing this proposed measure, the “*Preventive Measures in Healthcare Act*”, a dedicated preventive health fund, the State takes a decisive step toward shifting the health system from a predominantly curative model to one that prioritizes prevention and wellness. Such a shift is critical to reducing the burden of disease, improving the health of all Filipinos, and securing a more resilient and sustainable health care system for future generations.

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



REP. PATRICK MICHAEL “PM” D. VARGAS

Fifth District of Quezon City

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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 “*Preventive Measures in Healthcare Act.*”

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote and protect the right to health of the people by strengthening population-based preventive health programs, reducing the incidence of preventable diseases, and fostering a culture of health and wellness.

Consistent with Republic Act No. 11223, the State shall prioritize health promotion, disease prevention, and early detection through adequately funded, evidence-based, and community-driven interventions.

SECTION 3. *Definition of Terms.* – For purposes of this Act:

(a) *Preventive Health Programs* refer to population-based interventions aimed at reducing health risks, preventing disease, and promoting healthy behaviors, including but not limited to health education, vaccination campaigns, screening initiatives, and community-based wellness programs;

(b) *Fund* refers to the National Preventive Health Promotion Fund established under this Act;

(c) *Population-Based Services* refer to interventions directed at entire populations or communities, as distinguished from individual-based clinical services under existing health laws.

SECTION 4. *Establishment of the National Preventive Health Promotion Fund.* – There is hereby established a National Preventive Health Promotion Fund, hereinafter referred to as the “Fund,” which shall be used exclusively to finance population-based preventive health programs nationwide.

The Fund shall be separate and distinct from other health funds under existing laws and shall be used solely for purposes authorized under this Act.

SECTION 5. *Sources of Fund.* The Fund shall be sourced from:

- (a) A designated percentage of revenues collected from excise taxes on tobacco, alcohol, and other products as may be provided by law;
- (b) Annual appropriations under the General Appropriations Act;
- (c) Grants, donations, and assistance from local and international partners; and
- (d) Other lawful sources as may be determined by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM).

SECTION 6. *Authorized Uses of the Fund.*– The Fund shall be utilized exclusively for population-based preventive health programs, including:

- (a) Nationwide health promotion and behavior change campaigns;
- (b) Community-based screening and early detection initiatives for priority diseases;
- (c) Nutrition, physical activity, and lifestyle modification programs;
- (d) Preventive interventions targeting non-communicable and communicable diseases;
- (e) Capacity-building for local government units and community health workers; and
- (f) Monitoring, evaluation, and research on preventive health outcomes.

Provided, That the Fund shall not be used for curative, hospital-based, or individual clinical services already covered under existing health financing mechanisms.

All individuals shall be automatically enrolled in a preventive health care schedule appropriate to their age, sex, and risk profile, to be determined by the Department of Health (DOH). Primary care providers shall ensure that empaneled individuals are regularly informed, scheduled, and reminded of recommended preventive services, including periodic health risk assessments and screenings.

SECTION 7. *Implementing Agency and Governance* – The Department of Health (DOH) shall serve as the lead implementing agency of this Act.

A Preventive Health Promotion Council is hereby created, to be chaired by the Secretary of Health, with representatives from PhilHealth, DBM, Department of Education (DepEd), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), and other relevant agencies, to:

- (a) Set national priorities for preventive health programs;
- (b) Approve allocation and utilization of the Fund;
- (c) Ensure alignment with national health strategies and existing laws; and
- (d) Monitor program implementation and outcomes.

SECTION 8. *Preventive Health Care Participation and Incentive Mechanisms*. – The State shall promote universal participation in preventive health services through a system of automatic enrollment, active engagement, and the provision of appropriate incentives.

PhilHealth, in coordination with the DOH, shall develop and implement benefit enhancement mechanisms to encourage compliance with recommended preventive care schedules. Such mechanisms may include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Expanded benefit packages and reduced co-payments for individuals who regularly avail of preventive services;
- (b) Priority access to select health services and programs;
- (c) Integration of preventive compliance indicators in benefit eligibility enhancements, provided that no individual shall be denied access to essential health services on the sole ground of non-compliance.

Local government units (LGUs) and primary care providers shall adopt community-based strategies, including reminders, outreach programs, and mobile health services, to improve participation in preventive health programs, particularly among vulnerable and underserved populations.

SECTION 8. *Role of Local Government Units.* Local government units (LGUs) shall implement preventive health programs funded under this Act in accordance with national guidelines issued by the Department of Health (DOH).

The DOH shall provide technical assistance to LGUs and establish performance-based incentive mechanisms to encourage the achievement of national preventive health targets.

LGUs shall likewise establish and maintain a monitoring system for preventive health services within their respective jurisdictions. Such systems shall track population coverage and compliance with recommended health assessments and screenings, which shall serve as bases for the grant of performance-based incentives.

SECTION 9. *Coordination with Existing Health Systems.* All programs funded under this Act shall be implemented in coordination with existing health systems and mechanisms established under Republic Act No. 11223.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed to modify, amend, or supersede provisions relating to individual-based health services, health care provider networks, or PhilHealth benefit packages, which shall continue to be governed by existing laws.

SECTION 10. *Monitoring, Evaluation, and Transparency.* The DOH shall establish a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system to assess the effectiveness, efficiency, and equity of programs funded under this Act.

An annual report shall be submitted to Congress and made publicly accessible, detailing fund utilization, program outcomes, and performance of implementing units.

SECTION 11. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within one hundred eighty (180) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOH, in coordination with concerned agencies, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for its implementation.

SECTION 12. *Separability Clause.* – If any part or provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 13. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 14. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,