

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10394



Introduced by REP. PHILIP CONRAD "DOK BONG" M. ACOP

AN ACT
PROVIDING COMPREHENSIVE MATERNAL HEALTHCARE INCLUDING
IMMUNIZATION FOR PREGNANT WOMEN

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Philippine Constitution mandates that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them. It further emphasizes the State's duty to enhance the welfare and safety of Filipino women. Despite ongoing public health initiatives, maternal and infant mortality remain critical challenges that require comprehensive and institutionalized interventions.

This proposed measure seeks to safeguard the lives of pregnant Filipina women and their unborn children by institutionalizing a holistic approach to maternal healthcare. Central to this bill is the establishment of a National Immunization Program under the Department of Health (DOH) dedicated specifically to pregnant women, ensuring they are protected from vaccine-preventable diseases such as Influenza, Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis (whooping cough).

To ensure accessibility and effectiveness, the bill outlines the following key interventions:

- **Free Immunization:** Mandates the free administration of essential vaccines in all government hospitals, health facilities, and community-based programs, as well as in PhilHealth-accredited private facilities.
- **Infrastructure Development:** Requires Local Government Units (LGUs) and the DOH to upgrade devolved health services, mandating that every barangay must have a birthing facility equipped to provide quality emergency obstetric care (EMOC).

- **Education and Awareness:** Directs healthcare workers to actively educate expectant mothers on the importance, benefits, and potential side effects of immunization during prenatal care.
- **Workforce Support:** Encourages facility-based deliveries and mandates mechanisms to ensure the retention and availability of local health workers.

By bridging the gaps in prenatal care, upgrading local health infrastructure, and guaranteeing maternal immunization, this bill proactively reduces maternal and infant mortality rates while promoting the overall well-being of Filipino families.

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



REP. PHILIP CONRAD "DOH BONG" M. ACOP

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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Second Regular Session
HOUSE BILL NO. 10894

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AN ACT
PROVIDING COMPREHENSIVE MATERNAL HEALTHCARE INCLUDING
IMMUNIZATION FOR PREGNANT WOMEN

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 “*Comprehensive Maternal Healthcare and Immunization Act of 2026.*”

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy – Consistent with the State policy that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them and the constitutional declaration that the State shall enhance the welfare and safety of Filipino women, it is hereby declared the policy of the State to ensure the health and well-being of pregnant Filipino women by providing comprehensive maternal healthcare services, including immunization, to reduce maternal and infant mortality rates, promote healthy pregnancies, and contribute to the overall well-being of families and communities.

SEC. 3. National Immunization Program for Pregnant Women - There is hereby established a National Immunization Program under the Department of Health (DOH), which shall ensure that pregnant Filipino women and newborns are sufficiently protected from vaccine-preventable diseases such as Influenza, whooping cough (pertussis), tetanus, and diphtheria.

SEC. 4. Coverage - The immunization provided under this Act shall cover the following vaccine-preventable diseases:

- a. Influenza;
- b. Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Whooping cough (Pertussis); and

- c. Such other vaccines as determined by the DOH in line with evidence-based guidelines and global health recommendations and best practices in maternal and fetal health.

SEC. 5. *Administration of Vaccines* - The vaccines shall be administered for free in any government hospital or health facility, and in communities under its community-based immunization program, and in any private health facility if such is included in the PhilHealth benefit package. The DOH, in collaboration with the Department Interior and Local Government (DILG), shall conduct community-based immunization programs for pregnant women. The DOH shall periodically review and update the list of immunizations for pregnant women in line with evidence-based medical guidelines and global health recommendations.

SEC. 6. *Education and Awareness* - All health care practitioners or healthcare workers who are administering prenatal care shall educate pregnant mothers on the importance of immunization in safeguarding maternal and infant health and well-being, as well as the potential risks and side effects.

SEC. 7. *Access to maternal healthcare* - The DOH, in coordination with local government units (LGUs), shall ensure the availability of comprehensive maternal healthcare services, including but not limited to prenatal care including vaccinations, nutrition support, prenatal screening, counselling, and postnatal care, to all pregnant women.

SEC. 8. *Comprehensive Maternal Healthcare Services and Facilities* - The LGUs in cooperation with the DOH are mandated to upgrade and improve devolved health services and medical facilities to ensure that they are adequately equipped to provide comprehensive maternal healthcare services, including quality emergency obstetric care (EMOC). Every barangay in the country should have a birthing facility to help reduce the risk of maternal and infant deaths.

SEC. 9. *Facility-Based Delivery and Retention of Health Workers* - The LGUs shall encourage facility-based delivery and shall ensure the availability and retention of health workers who deliver these health services.

SEC. 10. *Reporting and Monitoring* - The DOH shall submit to the Office of the President of the Philippines, the Senate Committee on Health and Demography, and the House of Representatives Committee on Health on or before the end of December of every year, or upon the request of any of these said committees of Congress, a report giving a detailed account of the status of the implementation of this Act.

Health centers and other healthcare facilities shall maintain accurate records of maternal healthcare services provided, including the number of immunizations, prenatal check-ups, deliveries, postpartum visits, and referrals made.

SEC 11. Appropriations. – The amount necessary to carry out the implementation of this Act shall be charged to the current year's appropriations of the DOH. Thereafter, such funds as may be necessary for the effective implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 12. Implementing Rules and Regulations – The DOH shall, in consultation with the National Immunization Committee, issue the implementing rules and regulations within ninety (90) days after the approval of this Act.

SEC. 13. Separability Clause – If for any reason, any part or provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 14. Effectivity Clause -This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,