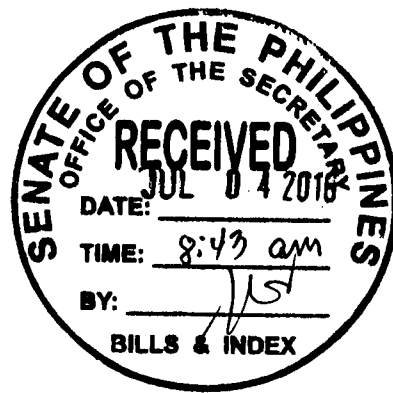


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



SENATE

S. B. No. 249

Introduced by SENATOR LOREN LEGARDA

AN ACT GRANTING MANDATORY PHILHEALTH COVERAGE TO ALL PERSONS WITH DISABILITY (PWDs), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7277, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "MAGNA CARTA FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITY", PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Explanatory Note

Article 2, Section 11 of the Constitution provides that "the State values the dignity of every human person and guarantees full respect for human rights." Furthermore, Article 2, Section 15 of the Constitution also mandates that "the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill consciousness among them."

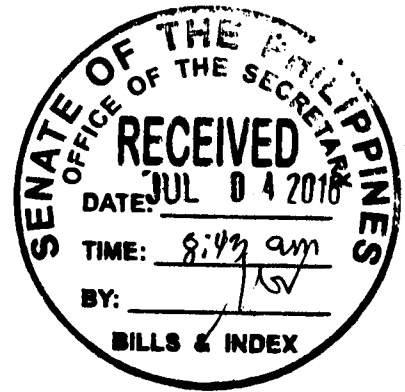
Based on the 2010 Census on Population and Housing, there are sixteen (16) in every one thousand (1000), or about 1.6 million Filipinos who have disabilities. According to the World Health Organization, people with disabilities tend to seek more health care than people without disabilities, thus, having greater unmet needs.

This bill aims to ensure that all PWDs are covered by the National Health Insurance Program of the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (Philhealth). With this measure, PWDs will not have to pay for their contribution. The funds necessary to guarantee the enrollment of all PWDs shall be sourced from the National Health Insurance Fund of Philhealth from proceeds of RA No. 10351 also known as the "Sin Tax Reform Act of 2012."

In view of the foregoing, early passage of this bill is requested.


LOREN LEGARDA
Senator

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Mandatory
2 Philhealth Coverage for All PWDs Act."
3

4 **SEC. 2.** A new section is hereby added after Section 18 under "Chapter III.
5 HEALTH" of Republic Act No. 7277, as amended, otherwise known as the
6 "Magna Carta for Persons with Disability" to read as follows:
7

8 **"SEC. 19. MANDATORY PHILHEALTH COVERAGE. - ALL PERSONS
9 WITH DISABILITY SHALL BE COVERED BY THE NATIONAL HEALTH
10 INSURANCE PROGRAM OF THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE
11 CORPORATION (PHILHEALTH). FUNDS NECESSARY TO ENSURE
12 THE ENROLLMENT OF ALL PWDs WHO ARE NOT CURRENTLY
13 COVERED UNDER ANY EXISTING CATEGORY SHALL BE SOURCED
14 FROM THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE FUND OF PHILHEALTH
15 EARMARKED FROM THE PROCEEDS OF SIN TAX COLLECTIONS AS
16 PROVIDED FOR IN REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10351."**
17

18 **SEC. 3.** The succeeding sections of Republic Act No. 7277, as amended, are
19 hereby renumbered accordingly.
20

21 **SEC. 4.** Implementing Rules and Regulations. - The Philippine Health
22 Insurance Corporation (PHILHEALTH) and the Department of Social Welfare
23 and Development (DSWD) shall issue, not later than thirty (30) days upon the
24 effectivity of this Act, the corresponding rules and regulations necessary for its
25 proper and effective implementation.
26

27 **SEC. 5.** Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and
28 regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby
29 repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

1 **SEC. 6.** Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
2 publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general
3 circulation.

4
5 Approved,