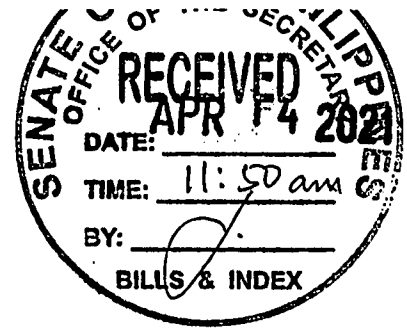


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



SENATE
S. No. 2132

Introduced by Senator Ralph G. Recto

**AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR AN ANNUAL MEDICAL EXAMINATION BENEFIT FOR
PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS AND ALLOCATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Teachers play a vital role in facilitating the learning and development of students. As the main contributor in molding the minds of the youth, the educators are expected to perform with utmost commitment, effectiveness and competency. It is of absolute importance to recognize the necessity of keeping our teachers healthy considering that their physical well-being has a significant impact on the efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of educational services.

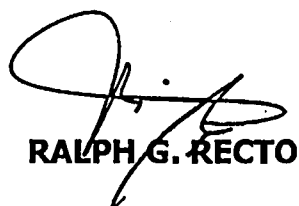
Several programs in promoting the well-being of teachers have been initiated in the past by the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation, in partnership with the Department of Education (DepEd). However, the comprehensive medical examination program for teachers which was initiated in 2014, in line with the mandate under Republic Act No. 11223 or the Universal Health Care Act (UHC) and the Magna Carta for Public School Teachers, has not been implemented despite the issuance of the guidelines by the agencies concerned.

In 2019, a five hundred pesos (Php500.00) medical examination benefit was provided for public school teachers under the General Appropriations Act. That was the first time that such benefit, which is a compulsory provision in the Magna Carta for Public School Teachers, was received by the teaching force. However, not long after, this financial assistance was no longer included in the budget of the DepEd.

As a pro-active response to the needs of one of the most important sectors in our society, and to implement the obligation of the government under the Magna Carta for Public School Teachers, this bill seeks to provide for free annual medical examination for teachers which shall be chargeable against the health insurance fund of the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation. This benefit will strengthen the primary health care services in the country by promoting the health of public school teachers, reducing unnecessary hospitalization and protecting them from the high cost of hospital care.

The COVID-19 pandemic has shifted the prioritization of nations towards the attainment of better health services and promotion of the well-being of its citizens. This measure will help ensure that the health of one of the most important and the largest group numbering to a million in government service will be taken care of.

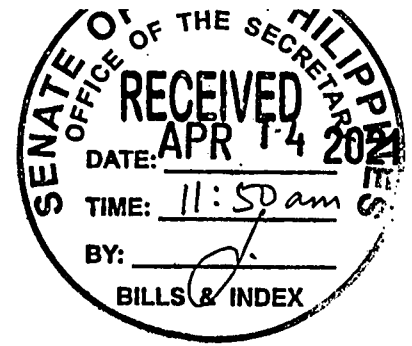
The immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



RALPH G. RECTO

/ejcv

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



SENATE
S. No. 2132

Introduced by Senator Ralph G. Recto

**AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR AN ANNUAL MEDICAL EXAMINATION BENEFIT FOR
PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS AND ALLOCATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1 Section. 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Public School Teachers’
2 Annual Medical Check-Up Act”.

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to
4 protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness
5 among them. Towards this end, the State shall adopt an integrated and
6 comprehensive health development program and provision of medical services to
7 promote the well-being of public school teachers nationwide.

8 Sec. 3. *Annual Medical Check-Up Benefit.* – The annual medical check-up
9 benefit shall be provided free-of-charge to all public school teachers and may be
10 availed of every year, subject to PhilHealth benefit guidelines. This benefit shall include
11 a comprehensive health profile upon enlistment, primary care consultations, and when
12 clinically necessary, selected diagnostic tests such as:

- 13 i. Complete blood count (CBC);
14 ii. Blood typing;
15 iii. Urinalysis;
16 iv. Stool Exam;
17 v. Chest X-ray;
18 vi. Sputum Microscopy;
19 vii. Lipid Profile;

- 1 viii. Fasting Blood Sugar;
- 2 ix. Creatinine;
- 3 x. Electrocardiogram (ECG); and
- 4 xi. Blood glucose monitoring

5 **Sec. 4. Coverage.** – The grant of the annual medical examination benefit
6 authorized in this Act shall cover all persons engaged in classroom teaching, in any
7 level of instruction, on full-time basis, including guidance counselors, school librarians,
8 industrial arts or vocational instructors, and all other persons performing supervisory
9 and/or administrative functions in all schools, colleges, and universities operated by
10 the government or its political subdivisions. Beneficiaries under this Act shall choose
11 the provider that is most accessible to them without restriction to jurisdictional area,
12 and may avail of the benefit after enlistment and scheduled appointment.

13 **Sec. 5. Medical Check-Up Providers.** - Both government and private health care
14 facilities can be accredited as medical check-up providers, subject to accreditation
15 standards by the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation. All accredited providers
16 must ensure that the indicated benefits in the package are available to the enlisted
17 beneficiaries. Providers cannot discriminate against beneficiaries with high health risks
18 to enlist in their facility.

19 **Sec. 6. Funding.** – The amount necessary for the grant of the annual medical
20 check-up benefit authorized under this Act shall be charged against the health
21 insurance fund of the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation.

22 **Sec. 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within sixty (60) days from the
23 effectivity of this Act, the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation, in coordination with
24 the Department of Education, shall issue the implementing rules and regulations for
25 this Act.

26 **Sec. 8. Separability Clause.** – If any provision of this Act shall be held
27 unconstitutional, the remainder of the Act not otherwise affected shall remain in full
28 force and effect.

29 **Sec. 9 Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, resolutions, orders or ordinances
30 or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed, amended or modified
31 accordingly.

1 Sec. 10. *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.

Approved,