

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

SENATE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

10 JUL -7 49 29

SENATE

Senate Bill No. 549

RECEIVED BY: 

INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article XIII, Section 11 of the Constitution provides the state policy of adopting an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost.

However, our lack of focus on the health sector is evident as the total health budget only accounted for 2.38 percent of the national budget in 2009.

More than a decade has elapsed since the enactment of Republic Act No. 7875, otherwise known as the "National Health Insurance Act of 1995," mandating that affordable health care coverage be made available to all citizens. The country is far from the target. The bill seeks to address this by ensuring that all benefits under Republic Act No. 7875 are made available to every Filipino citizen. In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA
Senator

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AN ACT
TO ENSURE THAT EVERY FILIPINO IS GRANTED WITH BASIC
HEALTHCARE SERVICES, PROVIDING FOR THE PURPOSE A
MANDATORY UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE COVERAGE, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "**Mandatory Universal Healthcare Coverage of Every Filipino Act of 2010.**"

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. - Pursuant to Section 15, Article II of the Constitution the State hereby declares the policy of protecting and promoting the right to health of the people and instilling health consciousness among them. Towards this end, the State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development, which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to every Filipino at affordable cost.

SEC. 3. Mandatory Universal Healthcare Coverage of Every Filipino. - Every Filipino citizen shall be entitled to mandatory universal healthcare coverage by their immediate and automatic inclusion to Philippine Health Insurance coverage and membership as provided for under Republic Act No. 7875, as amended, otherwise known as the "National Health Insurance Act of 1995". Accordingly, all the benefits under R.A.No. 7875 as amended shall also be made applicable and available to every Filipino citizen. Provided, That contribution of indigent members shall be funded by the National Government through the General Appropriations Act, without prejudice to other sources of contribution.

SEC. 4. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - The Secretary of Health, in coordination with the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHIC) shall, within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of the provisions of this Act.

SEC.5. Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, including R.A. No. 7875 as amended, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or other issuance inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 7. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,