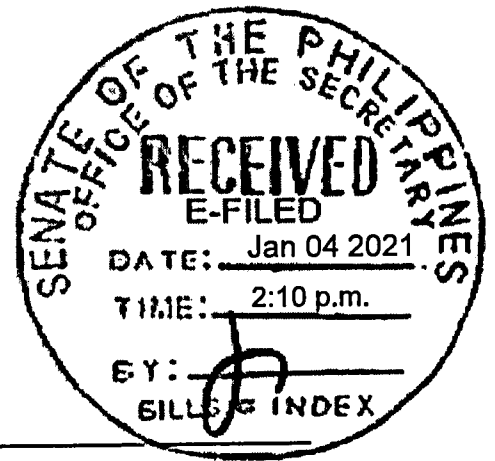


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*Second Regular Session* )



**SENATE**  
S.B. No. 1966

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Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

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**AN ACT TO SUSPEND THE INCREASE IN PREMIUM RATE CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION (PHILHEALTH)  
FOR THE YEAR 2021, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

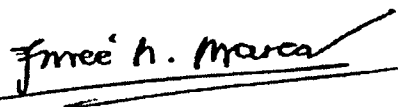
**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Art. XII, Section 11 of the 1987 Constitution provides that, "*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 all the people at affordable cost.*"

The Universal Health Care Act (R.A. No. 11223) was enacted in 20 February 2019 specifically to ensure the policy of the State to protect and promote the right to health of all Filipinos and instill health consciousness among them by adopting an integrated and comprehensive approach and health care model for a comprehensive set of quality and cost-effective, promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative health services without causing financial hardship to Filipinos.

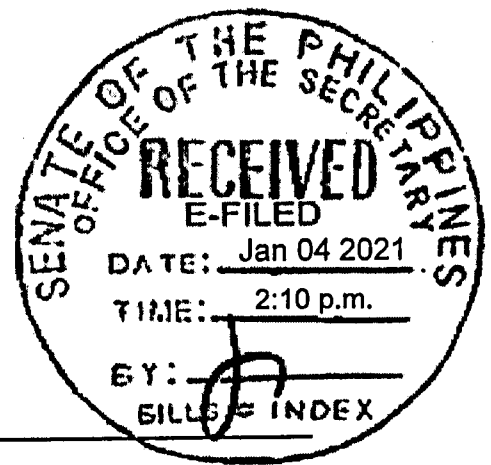
Section 10 of the said Act provides for a scheduled increase in premium contributions, on a per year basis. However, due to the current situation, in the wake of a pandemic, it is but appropriate to suspend such increase of premium contributions because it will only impose an additional burden to contributors during this period of overwhelming economic and financial difficulty.

Thus, in order to address the abovementioned circumstances, this bill seeks to suspend the increase in premium rate contributions of the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) for the year 2021, as provided in Sec. 10 of Republic Act No. 11223 otherwise known as the "*Universal Health Care Act.*"



**IMEE R. MARCOS**

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
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**AN ACT TO SUSPEND THE INCREASE IN PREMIUM RATE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION (PHILHEALTH) FOR THE YEAR 2021, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

*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 “*Suspension of the*  
2 *Increase in the PhilHealth Rate Contribution Act.*”

3           Sec. 2. *Suspension in the Increase of Premium Contributions.* – The  
4 scheduled increase in the payment of premium contributions of 3.50%, as provided  
5 in Sec. 10 of Republic Act No. 11223 otherwise known as the “*Universal Health Care*  
6 *Act,*” shall be suspended in the year of 2021.

7           The schedule of increase in premium contributions shall resume in 2022 with  
8 the supposed suspended 3.50% increase for 2021, as provided in R.A. No. 11223.

9           Sec. 3. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or  
10 other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are  
11 hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

12           Sec. 4. *Separability Clause.* – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared  
13 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall  
14 remain in force and effect.

15           Sec. 5. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following  
16 the completion of its publication either in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of  
17 general circulation in the Philippines.

*Approved,*