#### FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE ) REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES ) First Regular Session )

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#### SENATE

NECENVED IN: 4

# s. No. \_1983

#### Introduced by Senator JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The quality of health care has not significantly improved all these past years as the costs continue to soar making appropriate care beyond the reach of ordinary people. It is also undeniable that the Filipino masses, especially those who live in the rural areas and, more particularly, those in isolated communities and far-flung areas, receive far less and lower quality health service. Many continue to die without availing of medical services and even without seeing a doctor.

These problems are even made worse by the continuing exodus of doctors and nurses in search for green pastures abroad, and the continuing inability and of local government units to provide adequate budgetary assistance to medical facilities long devolved by the national government.

The decentralized primary health care system has remained weak and unresponsive to the health needs of the people and direly awaits the needed infusion of support and assistance from no less than Congress which can no longer keep its eyes closed to the damaging dysfunctions and disarray that the policy of devolution and decentralization has not unexpectedly wrought in the lives of the impoverished populace.

This proposed remedial legislation seeks to contribute effective strategies in solving the worsening national health situation by introducing vital amendments in the National Health Insurance Law that, among others, will help address the drain of doctors and other medical personnel serving health care providers in the countryside, as well as their lack of specialized trainings and needed exposures to advance their competence and expertise.

It is a very vital contribution that PHILHEALTH must welcome, and in fact, the wisest investment it could ably make as compared to its investments in governmental bonds and securities and corporate stocks which always run the risks of loss and mismanagement.

This legislative initiative also aims to provide financial assistance to health care providers that cater to numerous indigents and residents of impoverished barangays and municipalities of the archipelago.

In view of the urgency to address the fast worsening problems and grave challenges in public health care, it is earnestly urged that this bill be certified as an urgent administrative measure and a priority legislation of Congress to ensure its swift deliberation and passage in our legislative anvils.

JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

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## S. No. <u>1983</u>

#### Introduced by Senator JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

#### AN ACT

AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7875, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT INSTITUTING A NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM FOR ALL FILIPINOS AND ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION FOR THE PURPOSE, TO EXTEND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS, PROMOTE THE ADVANCEMENT OF MEDICAL PERSONNEL AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1	Section 1. Section 26 of Republic Act No. 7875 is hereby amended to read as
2	follows:
3	"SECTION 26. Financial Management.—The use,
4	disposition, investment, disbursement, administration and
5	management of the National Health Insurance Fund,
6	including any subsidy, grant or donation received for
7	program operations shall be governed by resolution of the
8	Board of Directors of the Corporation, subject to the
9	following limitations:
10	a) x x x
11	b) x x x
12	c) AT LEAST TEN (10) PERCENT OF ITS ANNUAL
13	FUND SHALL BE ALLOCATED FOR LOANS AND/OR
14	FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO ALL HEALTH CARE
15	PROVIDERS.
16	Section 2. Section 27 of Republic Act No. 7875 is hereby amended to read as
17	follows:
18	"SECTION 27. Reserve FundThe Corporation shall set
19	aside a portion of its accumulated revenues not needed to
20	meet the cost of the current year's expenditures as reserve
21	funds: provided, that THIRTY (30%) PERCENT OF THIS
22	TOTAL AMOUNT SHALL BE INVESTED IN THE
23	TRAININGS, STUDIES OR EDUCATIONAL
24	ADVANCEMENT OF MEDICAL PERSONNEL SERVING
25	HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS IN 4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> AND 6 <sup>th</sup> CLASS
26	MUNICIPALITIES, X X X.
27	Section 3. The Board, in consultation with the Committee on Health of the
28	Senate and the House of Representatives and Department of Health (DOH) shall
29	formulate the rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of this Act within

30 thirty (30) days from its approval.

- 1 Section 4. Information Campaign.—A three-month intensive public information 2 campaign shall be undertaken by the Department of Health and the Philippine Health 3 Insurance Corporation prior to the implementation of the rules and regulations of this 4 Act.
- 5 Section 5. Oversight Provision. Congress shall conduct a bi-annual review of the 6 management and implementation of the performance and program herein enacted.
- Section 6. Separability Clause. If any part or provision of this Act shall be held
  invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions which are not affected thereby shall
  remain valid and in full force and effect.
- 10 Section 7. Repealing Clause. All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, 11 rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this 12 Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.
- 13 Section 8. Effectivity.—This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its 14 publication in at least three (3) newspapers of general circulation.
- 15 16

Approved,