FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

SENATE

SENALL

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S. B. No. 2010

Introduced by SENATOR EDGARDO J. ANGARA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The bill seeks to strengthen the capability of the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) for more effective implementation of the National Health Insurance Program (NHIP) against the incidence of fraudulent activities. It primarily aims to specifically define offenses and penalties as well as the emerging abuses and unethical practices to be imposed against erring health care providers, employers and members. This bill also seeks to increase the amount of fine from the existing "P10,000.00 to P50,000.00" to "P50,000 to P100,000.00" with a discretion on the part of the PhilHealth to impose such fine or suspension from three (3) months to the whole term of accreditation or revocation of accreditation, or both such fine and suspension or revocation against the erring health care provider. On the aspect of erring employers, it will include the penalties to be imposed for failure to register and/or deduct/remit contribution of their employees and that the violations may also be criminal or civil or both.

The billions of pesos in benefit payment are really irresistible to some unscrupulous health care providers. Though there is no statistical and hard data to measure the amount of fraudulent claims, it is imperative to define and criminalize the abuses and unethical practices of erring health care providers before they become an inevitable threat to the NHI Fund. The abuses and unethical practices are getting sophisticated, evolving to new methods and techniques of violations along every generation of social health insurance.

With regard to the employers, PhilHealth will not only focus on the filing of cases on their violations. More importantly, PhilHealth considers them as big partners in the effective and efficient implementation of the NHIP as they are the biggest contributors to the NHI Funds. Given their big role and responsibility, employers should be reminded that the nonregistration. non-deduction and/or non-remittance of the premium contributions of their employees will lead to the collapse of the Program. Hence, in order to balance both the interest of PhilHealth and the employers, this bill proposes the imposition of interest and surcharges of three percent (3%) per month or at any rate as may be fixed by the Corporation in case of delay in the remittances of premiums. This is to avoid the litigious process of going to court for the settlement of their arrears and clear the name of their company in the quickest possible way. This provision is copied verbatim from the provisions of RA No. 8282 or the SSS Act of 1997.

Moreover, RA No. 7875, as amended by RA No. 9241 failed to provide PhilHealth the enforcement power and authority against any erring health care providers and employers. In order to specifically address this very urgent concern, it is therefore proposed to vest PhilHealth with visitorial and police powers to ensure the effective implementation of the NHIP and to protect the NHI Fund from being indiscriminately dissipated through fraudulent activities, abuses and unethical practices from unscrupulous health care providers and employers.

Lastly, anticipating the vital role of the informal sector, PhilHealth already devised innovative approaches in extending the coverage from this category. It conceptualized the *Kalusugang Sigurado at Abot-Kaya sa PhilHealth Insurance* (KASAPI) which targeted the organized groups for the group enrollment of its members in the Program. The successful implementation of this scheme has led to the rapid increase of NHIP members most especially from this sector. Thus, it would be of the best interest to expand the current representation of the self-employed in the PhilHealth Board of Directors as stated in the law to embody the entire *informal sector*. The aforesaid sector is very diverse which include not only the self-employed sub-groups but also encompasses the small-scale, occasional members such as all types of street vendors and sometimes those who are informally employed in the formal enterprises. Additionally, it is also being endorsed to change the representation of the employed sector to *formal sector* for more clarity and to distinguish it from the informal sector.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of the bill is earnestly sought.

EDGARDO J. ANGARA

	CRANE SECRETARY
FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session	} } } } }
SENATE S. B. No. 2010	HECK VED BY -

Introduced by SENATOR EDGARDO J. ANGARA

AN ACT DEFINING THE OFFENSES AND ABUSES AGAINST THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM (NHIP) AND PROVIDING PENALTIES AND SANCTIONS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLE X OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7875 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE ACT OF 1995 AS AMENDED BY RA 9241 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1	SECTION 1. Section 18 of Republic Act No. 7875 as amended by RA
2	9241 is hereby amended to read as follows:
3 4	SEC. 18. The Board of Directors
5	a) Composition – The Corporation shall be governed by a
6	Board of Directors hereinafter referred to as the Board,
7	composed of eleven members as follows:
8	The Secretary of Health;
9	The Secretary of Labor and Employment or his
10	representative;
11	The Secretary of the Interior and Local Government or his
12	representative;
13	The Secretary of Social Welfare and Development or his
14	representative;
15	The President of the Corporation;
16	A representative of the FORMAL [labor] sector;
1 7	A representative of employers
18	The SSS Administrator or his representative;
19	The GSIS General Manager or his representative;

1The Vice Chairperson for the basic sector of the National2Anti-Poverty Commission or his representative;

3A representative of Filipino Overseas Workers TO BE4ENDORSED BY DULY RECOGNIZED NATIONAL5ASSOCIATION OF OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS;

A representative of the INFORMAL [Self-employed] sector; and

A representative of health care providers to be endorsed by the national association of health care institutions and medical professionals.

11The Secretary of Health shall be the ex officio12Chairperson while the President of the Corporation shall be the13Vice Chairperson of the Board.

Appointment and Tenure - The President of the 14 *b*) Philippines shall appoint the Members of the Board upon the 15 recommendation of the Chairman of the Board and in 16 consultation with the sectors concerned. Members of the Board 17 shall have a term of four (4) years each, renewable for a 18 maximum of two (2) years, except for members whose terms 19 shall be co-terminous with their respective positions in 20 government. Any vacancy in the Board shall be filled in the 21 manner in which the original appointment was made and the 22 appointee shall serve only the unexpired term of his predecessor. 23

c) Meetings and Quorum – The Board shall hold regular
meetings at least once a month. Special meetings may be
convened at the call of the Chairperson or by a majority of the
members of the Board. The presence of a majority of all the
members shall constitute a quorum. In the absence of the
Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, a temporary presiding
officer shall be designated by the majority of the quorum.

31 d) Allowances and Per Diems – The members of the Board
32 shall receive a per diem for every meeting actually attended
33 subject to the pertinent budgetary laws, rules and regulations
34 on compensation, honoraria and allowances.

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1 **SECTION 2.** Article X of the same Act is also hereby amended to read 2 as follows:

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Article X. OFFENSES AND Penalties

SEC. 44. OFFENSES OF INSTITUTIONAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS-

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9 SEC. 44-A. PADDING OF CLAIMS - ANY HEALTH CARE PROVIDER WHO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CLAIMING PAYMENT 10 FROM THE NHIP, FILES A CLAIM FOR BENEFITS WHICH ARE 11 IN EXCESS OF THE BENEFITS ACTUALLY PROVIDED BY 12 ADDING DRUGS. MEDICINES. SUPPLIES. PROCEDURES AND 13 SERVICES. SHALL BE PENALIZED WITH A FINE OF NOT LESS 14 THAN FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) BUT NOT MORE 15 THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00) OR 16 17 SUSPENSION OF ACCREDITATION FROM THREE (3) MONTHS TO THE WHOLE TERM OF ACCREDITATION OR REVOCATION 18 ACCREDITATION, OR BOTH 19 OF SUCH FINE AND 20 SUSPENSION/REVOCATION, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CORPORATION. 21

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SEC. 44-B. CLAIMS FOR SERVICES NOT RENDERED
AND / OR CONFINEMENTS OF NON-ADMITTED PATIENTS –
ANY HEALTH CARE PROVIDER WHO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF
CLAIMING BENEFIT REIMBURSEMENT FROM THE NHIP:

27

28A.MAKES IT APPEAR THAT THE PATIENT IS29ACTUALLY CONFINED AND / OR PROVIDED30PHILHEALTH-COVERED SERVICES IN THE HEALTH31CARE INSTITUTION / FACILITY; OR

- B. USES SUCH OTHER MACHINATIONS THAT WOULD
 RESULT IN CLAIMS FOR SERVICES NOT
 RENDERED/GIVEN
- 35

36 SHALL BE PENALIZED WITH A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN FIFTY
37 THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE

HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00) OR SUSPENSION OF
 ACCREDITATION FROM THREE (3) MONTHS TO THE WHOLE
 TERM OF ACCREDITATION OR REVOCATION OF
 ACCREDITATION, OR BOTH SUCH FINE AND SUSPENSION /
 REVOCATION, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CORPORATION.

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SEC. 44-C. EXTENDING PERIOD OF CONFINEMENT –
ANY HEALTH CARE PROVIDER WHO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF
CLAIMING PAYMENT FROM THE NHIP, FILES A CLAIM WITH
EXTENDED PERIOD OF CONFINEMENT BY:

11

12A.INCREASINGTHEPERIODOFACTUAL13CONFINEMENT OF ANY PATIENT;

B. CONTINUOUSLY CHARTING ENTRIES IN THE
DOCTOR'S ORDER, NURSE'S NOTES AND
OBSERVATION DESPITE ACTUAL DISCHARGE OR
ABSENCE OF THE PATIENTS; OR

18 C. USING SUCH OTHER MACHINATIONS THAT WOULD
19 RESULT IN THE UNNECESSARY EXTENSION OF
20 CONFINEMENT.

21

SHALL BE PENALIZED WITH A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN FIFTY 22 THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE 23 HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00) OR SUSPENSION OF 24 ACCREDITATION FROM THREE (3) MONTHS TO THE WHOLE 25 OR OF ACCREDITATION REVOCATION OF 26 TERM ACCREDITATION, OR BOTH SUCH FINE AND SUSPENSION / 27 REVOCATION, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CORPORATION. 28

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30 SEC. 44-D. POST-DATING OF CLAIMS – ANY HEALTH 31 CARE PROVIDER WHO, FOR PURPOSES OF CLAIMING 32 PAYMENT FROM THE NHIP, FILES A CLAIM FOR PAYMENT OF 33 SERVICES RENDERED NOT WITHIN SIXTY (60) CALENDAR 34 DAYS FROM THE DATE OF DISCHARGE OF THE PATIENT OR 35 SUCH OTHER PRESCRIPTIVE PERIODS AS THE CORPORATION 36 MAY ISSUE BUT MAKES IT APPEAR SO BY CHANGING,

1 ERASING, ADDING TO THE PERIOD OF CONFINEMENT OR IN ANY MANNER ALTERING DATES SO AS TO CONFORM WIT THE 2 ADOPTED PRESCRIPTIVE PERIOD, SHALL SUFFER A FINE OF 3 NOT LESS THAN FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) BUT NOT 4 5 MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00) OR SUSPENSION OF ACCREDITATION FROM THREE (3) 6 MONTHS TO THE WHOLE TERM OF ACCREDITATION OR 7 REVOCATION OF ACCREDITATION, OR BOTH SUCH FINE AND 8 SUSPENSION / REVOCATION, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE 9 CORPORATION. 10

ALL CLAIMS FOR REIMBURSEMENT SHALL BE FILED WITHIN A PERIOD OF SIXTY (60) CALENDAR DAYS FROM THE DATE OF DISCHARGE OF THE PATIENT. OTHERWISE, THE CLAIM WILL BE DENIED. SUCH PERIOD MAY BE EXTENDED FOR SUCH CAUSES AS MAYBE DETERMINED BY THE CORPORATION.

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SEC. 44-E. MISREPRESENTATION BY FURNISHING 18 FALSE OR INCORRECT INFORMATION - ANY HEALTH CARE 19 PROVIDER SHALL BE LIABLE FOR FRAUDULENT PRACTICE 20 WHEN, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PARTICIPATION IN THE NHIP 21 OR CLAIMING PAYMENT THEREFROM, IT FURNISHES FALSE 22 OR INCORRECT INFORMATION CONCERNING ANY MATTER 23 REQUIRED BY THIS ACT. IT SHALL BE PENALIZED WITH A 24 FINE OF NOT LESS THAN FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) 25 BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS 26 (P100,000.00) OR SUSPENSION OF ACCREDITATION FROM 27 THREE (3) MONTHS TO THE WHOLE TERM OF ACCREDITATION 28 OR REVOCATION OF ACCREDITATION, OR BOTH SUCH FINE 29 AND SUSPENSION/REVOCATION, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE 30 CORPORATION. 31

WHERE SUCH MISREPRESENTATION LEADS TO DAMAGE
TO THE CORPORATION, THE PENALTY SHALL BE THE
MAXIMUM FINE AND REVOCATION OF ACCREDITATION.

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SEC. 44-F. FILING OF MULTIPLE CLAIMS - ANY 1 2 HEALTH CARE PROVIDER WHO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF 3 CLAIMING PAYMENT FROM THE NHIP, FILES TWO OR MORE CLAIMS FOR A PATIENT FOR THE SAME CONFINEMENT OR 4 ILLNESS, OR MAKES IT APPEAR THAT THE PATIENT HAD 5 BEEN CONFINED FOR TWO OR MORE TIMES AND/OR FOR TWO 6 7 OR MORE DIFFERENT ILLNESSES SHALL BE PENALIZED WITH A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS 8 (P50,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND 9 PESOS (P100,000.00) OR SUSPENSION OF ACCREDITATION 10 11 FROM THREE (3) MONTHS TO THE WHOLE TERM OF ACCREDITATION OR REVOCATION OF ACCREDITATION, OR 12 BOTH SUCH FINE AND SUSPENSION / REVOCATION, AT THE 13 DISCRETION OF THE CORPORATION. 14

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SEC. 44-G. UNJUSTIFIED ADMISSION BEYOND 16 ACCREDITED BED CAPACITY - ANY HEALTH CARE 17 INSTITUTION WHICH, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CLAIMING 18 PAYMENT FROM THE NHIP, FILES CLAIMS FOR PATIENTS 19 CONFINED IN EXCESS OF THE ACCREDITED BED CAPACITY AT 20 ANY GIVEN TIME WITHOUT JUSTIFICATION IN THE FORM AND 21 MANNER PRESCRIBED BY THE CORPORATION SHALL SUFFER 22 A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS 23 (P50,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND 24 PESOS (P100,000.00) OR SUSPENSION OF ACCREDITATION 25 FROM THREE (3) MONTHS TO THE WHOLE TERM OF 26 ACCREDITATION OR REVOCATION OF ACCREDITATION, OR 27 BOTH SUCH FINE AND SUSPENSION/REVOCATION, AT THE 28 DISCRETION OF THE CORPORATION. 29

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CLAIMS FOR **UNAUTHORIZED** 31 SEC. 44**-H**. SERVICES/PROCEDURES PERFORMED **BEYOND** 32 ACCREDITATION CAPABILITY OF THE HEALTH CARE 33 ANY HEALTH CARE INSITUTION/FACILITY ----34 INSTITUTION/FACILITY WHICH PERFORMS HEALTH CARE 35 ITS SERVICES/PROCEDURES BEYOND AUTHORIZED 36

CAPABILITY SHALL SUFFER A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN FIFTY 1 THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE 2 3 HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00) OR SUSPENSION OF ACCREDITATION FROM THREE (3) MONTHS TO THE WHOLE 4 5 TERM ACCREDITATION OF OR REVOCATION OF ACCREDITATION, OR BOTH SUCH FINE AND SUSPENSION/ 6 7 REVOCATION, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CORPORATION, EXCEPT WHEN SUCH SERVICES WERE DONE IN AN 8 EMERGENCY SITUATION / CONDITION TO SAVE LIFE AND 9 10 REFERRAL TO A HIGHER CATEGORY PROVIDER IS 11 PHYSICALLY IMPOSSIBLE.

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SEC. 13 44-I. FABRICATION OR POSSESSION OFFABRICATED FORMS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS - ANY 14 HEALTH CARE PROVIDER WHO IS FOUND PREPARING CLAIMS 15 WITH MISREPRESENTATIONS OR FALSE ENTRIES, OR TO BE IN 16 POSSESSION OF CLAIM FORMS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS 17 WITH FALSE ENTRIES, SHALL SUFFER A FINE OF NOT LESS 18 19 THAN FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00) OR 20 SUSPENSION OF ACCREDITATION FROM THREE (3) MONTHS 21 TO THE WHOLE TERM OF ACCREDITATION OR REVOCATION 22 OF ACCREDITATION, OR BOTH SUCH FINE AND SUSPENSION / 23 REVOCATION, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CORPORATION. 24

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SECTION 44-J. ABUSES AND UNETHICAL PRACTICES – ANY HEALTH CARE PROVIDER SHALL BE LIABLE FOR THE FOLLOWING ABUSES AND UNETHICAL PRACTICES:

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30	A.	UNSAFE OR DANGEROUS PRACTICES AS MAY BE
31		DETERMINED BY THE CORPORATION;
32	В.	IRRATIONAL OR UNNECESSARY DRUG USE;

33 C. UNNECESSARY PERFORMANCE OF DIAGNOSTIC OR
34 THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES;

D. CHARGING OR COLLECTING FROM A MEMBER AN
 AMOUNT IN EXCESS OF THE BENEFITS INCLUDING

THOSE COVERED BY CAPITATION OR GLOBAL 1 2 BUDGETS FOR PHILHEALTH-COVERED SERVICES 3 AND SUPPLIES WHICH PROHIBITS CHARGING OF 4 OUT-OF-POCKET PAYMENT INCLUDING OUTSIDE PURCHASES OF MEDICINES, 5 SUPPLIES AND HEALTH CARE SERVICES THAT ARE INCLUDED IN 6 7 THE BENEFIT:

8 Ε. ENROLLMENT AND / OR RECRUITMENT OF A 9 PERSON FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF CLAIMING BENEFITS AND / OR PAYMENT OF PREMIUM OF A 10 MEMBER BEFORE PROVIDING HEALTH CARE 11 SERVICES TO HIM / HER, EXCEPT WHEN THE 12 13 PATIENT OR MEMBER IS ITS EMPLOYEE OR THE 14 OWNER'S RELATIVE WITHIN THE FOURTH CIVIL DEGREE OF CONSANGUINITY OR AFFINITY; AND, 15

16F.ALL SUCH OTHER ABUSES AND UNETHICAL17PRACTICES AS MAY BE DETERMINED BY THE18CORPORATION.

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SAID HEALTH CARE INSTITUTION SHALL BE PENALIZED 20 WITH A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS 21 (P50,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND 22 PESOS (P100,000.00) OR SUSPENSION OF ACCREDITATION 23 FROM THREE (3) MONTHS TO THE WHOLE TERM OF 24 ACCREDITATION OR REVOCATION OF ACCREDITATION, OR 25 26 BOTH SUCH FINE AND SUSPENSION/REVOCATION, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CORPORATION. 27

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29 SEC. 44-K. OTHER FRAUDULENT ACTS – ANY HEALTH 30 CARE PROVIDER SHALL ALSO BE LIABLE FOR THE 31 FOLLOWING FRAUDULENT ACTS:

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A. MAKING IT APPEAR THAT THE PATIENT SUFFERED
FROM COMPENSABLE ILLNESS OR UNDERWENT A
COMPENSABLE PROCEDURE;

- 1B.FAILURE OR REFUSAL TO GIVE THE BENEFITS2DUE TO QUALIFIED MEMBERS/DEPENDENTS;
- C. CHARGING QUALIFIED PATIENTS FOR MEDICINES
 AND/OR SERVICES WHICH ARE LEGALLY
 CHARGEABLE TO AND COVERED BY THE NHIP;
- D. FAILURE OR REFUSAL TO REFUND TO THE 6 MEMBER THE PAYMENT RECEIVED FROM THE 7 NHIP WHEN THE HOSPITAL CHARGES 8 AND PROFESSIONAL FEES ARE FULLY 9 PAID IN ADVANCE BY THE MEMBER WITHIN A PERIOD OF 10 THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE DATE OF RECEIPT OF 11 **REFUND CHECK FROM THE CORPORATION:** 12
- E. FAILURE OR REFUSAL TO ACCOMPLISH AND
 SUBMIT THE REQUIRED FORMS IN CONNECTION
 WITH LETTER D.;
- F. FAILURE OR REFUSAL TO PROVIDE THE MEMBERS 16 WITH THE REQUIRED FORMS FOR DIRECT FILING 17 OF CLAIMS, BILLING STATEMENTS, OFFICIAL 18 RECEIPTS AND OTHER 19 DOCUMENTS **REQUIRED/NECESSARY FOR FILING OF CLAIMS; OR** 20 G. DELIBERATE FAILURE OR REFUSAL TO COMPLY 21 WITH THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER THIS ACT. 22
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44-L. BREACH OF THE WARRANTIES 24 SEC. OF25 ACCREDITATION - ANY INSTITUTIONAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDER WHO COMMITS ANY BREACH OF THE WARRANTIES 26 OF ACCREDITATION SHALL SUFFER A FINE OF NOT LESS 27 THAN FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) BUT NOT MORE 28 THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00) OR 29 SUSPENSION OF ACCREDITATION FROM THREE (3) MONTHS 30 TO THE WHOLE TERM OF ACCREDITATION OR REVOCATION 31 \mathbf{OF} ACCREDITATION, OR BOTH SUCH FINE AND 32 SUSPENSION/REVOCATION, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE 33 CORPORATION. 34

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SEC. 44-M. OTHER VIOLATIONS – ANY OTHER WILLFUL
 OR NEGLIGENT ACT OR OMISSION OF THE INSTITUTIONAL
 HEALTH CARE PROVIDER IN VIOLATION OF THIS ACT WHICH
 TENDS TO UNDERMINE OR DEFEAT THE OBJECTIVES OF THE
 NHIP SHALL BE CONSIDERED AS BREACH OF WARRANTIES.

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7 SEC. 44-N. CRIMINAL LIABILITY – IN ADDITION, A 8 CRIMINAL COMPLAINT SHALL BE FILED AGAINST THE 9 OFFICIALS OF THE ERRING INSTITUTIONAL HEALTH CARE 10 PROVIDER BEFORE THE APPROPRIATE OFFICE OF THE 11 PROSECUTOR FOR VIOLATIONS OF THIS ACT AND/OR THE 12 REVISED PENAL CODE.

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14 SEC. 45. OFFENSES OF HEALTH CARE

- 15 **PROFESSIONALS** -
- 16

SEC. 45-A. MISREPRESENTATION BY FALSE OR 17 INCORRECT INFORMATION -ANY HEALTH CARE 18 PROFESSIONAL SHALL BE LIABLE FOR FRAUDULENT 19 PRACTICE WHEN. FOR PURPOSES OF PARTICIPATION IN THE 20 21 NHIP OR CLAIMING PAYMENT FROM THE CORPORATION, INCORRECT FURNISHES FALSE OR INFORMATION 22 CONCERNING ANY MATTER REQUIRED BY THIS ACT SHALL 23 SUFFER A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS 24 (P50,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND 25 PESOS (P100,000.00) OR SUSPENSION OF ACCREDITATION 26 FROM THREE (3) MONTHS TO THE WHOLE TERM OF 27 ACCREDITATION OR REVOCATION OF ACCREDITATION, OR 28 BOTH SUCH FINE AND SUSPENSION/REVOCATION, AT THE 29 DISCRETION OF THE CORPORATION. 30

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32 SEC.45-B. BREACH OF THE WARRANTIES OF 33 ACCREDITATION – ANY HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL 34 FOUND TO HAVE COMMITTED ANY BREACH OF THE 35 WARRANTIES OF ACCREDITATION SHALL SUFFER A FINE OF 36 NOT LESS THAN FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) BUT NOT

MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00)
 OR SUSPENSION OF ACCREDITATION FROM THREE (3)
 MONTHS TO THE WHOLE TERM OF ACCREDITATION OR
 REVOCATION OF ACCREDITATION, OR BOTH SUCH FINE AND
 SUSPENSION/REVOCATION, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE
 CORPORATION.

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8 **SEC. 45-C.** *ABUSES AND UNETHICAL PRACTICES* – ANY 9 HEALTH CARE PROVIDER SHALL BE LIABLE FOR THE 10 FOLLOWING ABUSES AND UNETHICAL PRACTICES:

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12 PERFORMANCE OF PROCEDURES BEYOND THOSE A. 13 ALLOWED BY THE HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL'S 14 QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING EXCEPT WHEN UNDER THE DIRECT SUPERVISION 15 OF Α QUALIFIED HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL; 16

17B.UNSAFE OR DANGEROUS PRACTICES AS MAY BE18DETERMINED BY THE CORPORATION;

19 C. IRRATIONAL OR UNNECESSARY DRUG USE;

20D.UNNECESSARY PERFORMANCE OF DIAGNOSTIC OR21THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES;

- 22 Ε. CHARGING OR COLLECTING FROM A MEMBER AN 23 AMOUNT IN EXCESS OF THE BENEFITS INCLUDING THOSE COVERED BY CAPITATION OR GLOBAL 24 25 BUDGETS FOR PHILHEALTH-COVERED SERVICES AND SUPPLIES WHICH PROHIBITS CHARGING OF 26 27 OUT-OF-POCKET PAYMENT INCLUDING OUTSIDE PURCHASES OF MEDICINES, 28 SUPPLIES AND HEALTH CARE SERVICES THAT ARE INCLUDED IN 29 THE BENEFIT; 30
- F. ENROLLMENT AND/OR RECRUITMENT 31 OF А PERSON FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF CLAIMING 32 BENEFITS AND/OR PAYMENT OF PREMIUM OF A 33 MEMBER BEFORE PROVIDING HEALTH CARE 34 SERVICES TO HIM/HER, EXCEPT WHEN THE 35 36 PATIENT OR MEMBER IS HIS/HER EMPLOYEE OR

1RELATIVE WITHIN THE FOURTH CIVIL DEGREE OF2CONSANGUINITY OR AFFINITY; AND,

G. ALL SUCH OTHER ABUSES AND UNETHICAL
PRACTICES AS MAY BE DETERMINED BY THE
CORPORATION.

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SAID HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL 7 SHALL BE PENALIZED WITH A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN FIFTY 8 THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE 9 HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00) OR SUSPENSION OF 10 ACCREDITATION FROM THREE (3) MONTHS TO THE WHOLE 11 ACCREDITATION TERM OF OR REVOCATION 12 OF ACCREDITATION, BOTH SUCH OR FINE AND 13 SUSPENSION/REVOCATION, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE 14 CORPORATION. 15

16

SEC. 45-D. OTHER VIOLATIONS – ANY OTHER WILLFUL
OR NEGLIGENT ACT OR OMISSION OF THE HEALTH CARE
PROFESSIONAL IN VIOLATION OF THIS ACT WHICH TENDS TO
UNDERMINE OR DEFEAT THE OBJECTIVES OF THE NHIP
SHALL BE CONSIDERED AS BREACH OF WARRANTIES.

22

SEC. 45-E. CRIMINAL LIABILITY – IN ADDITION, A
CRIMINAL COMPLAINT SHALL BE FILED AGAINST AN ERRING
HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL BEFORE THE APPROPRIATE
OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR FOR VIOLATIONS OF THIS ACT
AND/OR THE REVISED PENAL CODE.

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SEC. 46. OFFENSES OF MEMBERS-

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SEC. 46-A. FRAUDULENT ACTS - ANY MEMBER WHO, 31 OF CLAIMING FOR PURPOSES NHIP BENEFITS 32 OR ENTITLEMENT THERETO, SHALL COMMIT ANY OF THE 33 OFFENSES PROVIDED FOR BY THIS ACT, INDEPENDENTLY OR 34 IN CONNIVANCE WITH THE HEALTH CARE PROVIDER, SHALL 35 SUFFER A FINE OF FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P5,000) AND 36

SUSPENSION FROM AVAILMENT OF NHIP BENEFITS FOR NOT
 LESS THAN THREE (3) MONTHS BUT NOT MORE THAN SIX (6)
 MONTHS.

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SEC. 46-B. CRIMINAL LIABILITY - IN ADDITION, A 5 6 CRIMINAL COMPLAINT SHALL BE FILED AGAINST THE MEMBER BEFORE THE OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR FOR THE 7 ABOVE VIOLATIONS WHICH CARRY А PENALTY 8 OF IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS THAN SIX (6) MONTHS BUT NOT 9 MORE THAN ONE (1) YEAR. 10

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"SEC. [44] 47. [Penal Provisions. - Any violation of the
provisions of this Act, after due notice and hearing, shall suffer the
following penalties:]-OFFENSES OF EMPLOYERS-

[A fine of not less than Ten thousand pesos (P 10,000) nor more than Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000) in case the violation is committed by the hospital management or provider. In addition, its accreditation shall be suspended or revoked from three (3) months to the whole term of accreditation: *Provided, however*, That recidivists may not anymore be accredited as a participant of the program;

A fine of not less than Five hundred pesos (P500) nor more than Five thousand pesos (P5,000) and imprisonment of not less than six (6) months nor more than one (1) year in case the violation is committed by the member.]

25 Where the violations consist of failure or refusal to [deduct 26 contributions from the employee's compensation or to remit the same to the Corporation, the penalty shall be a fine of not less than Five 27 hundred pesos (P500) but not more than One thousand pesos (P1,000) 28 multiplied by the total number of employees employed by the firm and 29 imprisonment of not less than six (6) months but not more than one (1)30 31 year: Provided, further, That in the case of self-employed members, failure to remit one's own contribution shall be penalized with a fine of 32 not less than five hundred pesos (P500) but not more than One 33 thousand pesos (P1,000).] REGISTER EMPLOYEES, OR TO DEDUCT 34 CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION 35 AND/OR REMIT THE SAME TO THE CORPORATION, THE 36

1 PENALTY SHALL BE A FINE OF FIVE THOUSAND PESOS 2 (P5,000.00) MULTIPLIED BY THE TOTAL NUMBER OF 3 EMPLOYEES OF THE FIRM AND IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS THAN SIX (6) YEARS AND ONE (1) DAY BUT NOT TO EXCEED 4 5 TWELVE (12) YEARS.

6 Any employer or any officer authorized to collect contributions 7 under this Act who, after collecting or deducting the monthly 8 contributions from his employee's compensation, fails to remit the said 9 contributions to the Corporation within thirty (30) days from the date 10 they become due shall be presumed to have misappropriated such 11 contribution and shall suffer the penalties provided for in Article 315 of 12 the Revised Penal Code.

13 Any employer who shall deduct directly or indirectly from the 14 compensation of the covered employees or otherwise recover from them his own contribution on behalf of such employees shall be punished by 15 a fine [not exceeding] OF [One] FIVE thousand pesos (P[1] 5,000) 16 17 multiplied by the total number of employees employed by the firm[or] 18 AND imprisonment FOR not [exceeding one (1)] LESS THAN SIX (6) YEARS AND ONE DAY BUT NOT TO EXCEED TWELVE (12) 19 years.[or both fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the Court.] 20

If the act or omission penalized by this Act be committed by an association, partnership, corporation or any other institution, its managing directors or partners or president or general manager, or other persons responsible for the commission of the said act shall be liable for the penalties provided for in this Act and other laws for the offense.

Any employee of the Corporation who receives or keeps funds or 27 property belonging, payable or deliverable to the Corporation, and who 28 29 shall appropriate the same, or shall take or misappropriate or shall 30 consent, or through abandonment or negligence shall permit any other person to take such property or funds wholly or partially, shall 31 likewise be liable for misappropriation of funds or property and shall 32 suffer imprisonment of not less than six (6) years and not more than 33 twelve (12) years and a fine of not less than Ten thousand pesos 34 35 (P10,000) nor more than Twenty thousand pesos (P20,000). Any

1	shortage of the funds or loss of the property upon audit shall be
2	deemed prima facie evidence of the offense.
2	CRIMINAL ACTION ARISING FROM A VIOLATION OF THE
4	PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT MAY BE COMMENCED BY THE
5	CORPORATION OR THE EMPLOYEE CONCERNED EITHER
5	UNDER THIS ACT OR IN APPROPRIATE CASES UNDER THE
7	REVISED PENAL CODE: PROVIDED, THAT SUCH CRIMINAL
8	ACTION MAY BE FILED BY THE CORPORATION IN THE CITY OR
9	MUNICIPALITY WHERE THE VIOLATION WAS COMMITTED OR
10	IN PROPER COURTS IN METRO MANILA, AT THE OPTION OF
11	THE CORPORATION.
12	
13	"SEC. 48. GENERAL PROVISIONS -
14	
15	SEC. 48-A. MITIGATING AND AGGRAVATING
16	CIRCUMSTANCES - THE FOLLOWING CIRCUMSTANCES
17	SHALL AFFECT THE GRAVITY OF THE VIOLATION AND THE
18	LIABILITY OF THE ERRING HEALTH CARE PROVIDER,
19	MEMBER, AND EMPLOYER:
20	
21	A. MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES – THE FOLLOWING
22	CIRCUMSTANCES SHALL MITIGATE THE LIABILITY
23	OF THE RESPONDENT:
24	
25	1. VOLUNTARY ADMISSION OF GUILT;
26	2. GOOD TRACK RECORD;
27	3. FIRST OFFENSE; AND
28	4. SUCH OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES AND
29	CONSIDERATIONS AS MAY BE DETERMINED BY
30	THE CORPORATION.
31	
32	B. AGGRAVATING CIRCUMSTANCES – THE FOLLOWING
33	CIRCUMSTANCES SHALL AGGRAVATE THE LIABILITY
34	OF THE RESPONDENT:
35	

1 1. PREVIOUS CONVICTION OF AN OFFENSE, AS 2 PROVIDED FOR IN THIS ACT; 3 2. CONNIVANCE AND/OR CONSPIRACY WITH AN OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE OF THE CORPORATION TO 4 5 FACILITATE OR COVER-UP THE COMMISION OF THE VIOLATION; 6 3. GROSS NEGLIGENCE; AND, 7 SUCH OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES 8 4. AND/OR 9 CONSIDERATIONS AS MAY BE DETERMINED BY THE CORPORATION. 10 11 SEC. 48-B. APPLICATION OF CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE 12 **IMPOSITION OF PENALTIES –** 13 14 15 A. THE PRESENCE OF MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCE WITHOUT ANY AGGRAVATING CIRCUMSTANCE 16 SHALL LIMIT THE IMPOSABLE PENALTY TO ITS 17 MINIMUM. 18 WHEN THERE IS NEITHER MITIGATING NOR 19 В. AGGRAVATING CIRCUMSTANCE, THE IMPOSABLE 20 PENALTY SHALL BE BETWEEN THE MINIMUM AND 21 THE MAXIMUM OF THE APPLICABLE PENALTY FOR 22 THE OFFENSE COMMITTED, AT THE DISCRETION 23 OF THE CORPORATION. THE SAME SHALL APPLY 24 25 WHEN BOTH MITIGATING AND AGGRAVATING CIRCUMSTANCE ARE PRESENT. 26 THE PRESENCE OF ANY AGGRAVATING 27 С. CIRCUMSTANCE WITHOUT THE MITIGATING 28 CIRCUMSTANCE SHALL INCREASE THE PENALTY 29 OF THE OFFENSE TO ITS MAXIMUM. 30 31 SEC. 48-C. COMMON PROVISIONS - ALL PENALTIES FOR 32 OFFENSES COMMITTED BY HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS AND 33 MEMBERS SHALL CARRY WITH THEM DENIAL OF PAYMENT 34 OF CLAIM/S IN QUESTION AND/OR REFUND TO THE 35 CORPORATION. IF ALREADY PAID. 36

1 IF THE PENALTY OF SUSPENSION IMPOSED AGAINST A 2 HEALTHCARE PROVIDER EXCEEDS THE VALIDITY OF THE CURRENT ACCREDITATION, THE RENEWAL OR THE RE-3 ACCREDITATION OF THE LATTER SHALL NOT BE ACTED UPON 4 5 UNTIL THE FULL TERM OF THE SUSPENSION IMPOSED HAS BEEN SERVED OR LIFTED. FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE PERIOD 6 COVERING THE EXPIRATION OF ACCREDITATION AND THE 7 START OF THE EFFECTIVITY OF THE RENEWAL AND/OR RE-8 ACCREDITATION SHALL BE CONSIDERED AS PART OR 9 CONTINUATION OF THE SUSPENSION. SUSPENSION SHALL 10 BE CARRIED OUT BY THE TEMPORARY CESSATION OF THE 11 12 BENEFITS OR PRIVILEGES UNDER THE NHIP.

13 SHOULD THE AGGREGATE PERIOD OF SUSPENSION TO
14 BE IMPOSED UPON THE PROVIDER ON ACCOUNTS OF TWO OR
15 MORE VIOLATIONS EXCEED TWENTY-FOUR (24) MONTHS, THE
16 MAXIMUM IMPOSABLE PENALTY SHALL BE EXACTED.

IN ALL CASES WHEREIN A DECISION IS RENDERED
AGAINST A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER, THE DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH (DOH), PROFESSIONAL REGULATIONS COMMISSION
(PRC) AND/OR OTHER CONCERNED AGENCIES SHALL BE
FURNISHED WITH A COPY OF THE SAME FOR INFORMATION
AND/OR APPROPRIATE ACTION.

A NOTICE OF SUSPENSION FOR THE INFORMATION OF
THE PUBLIC SHALL BE POSTED IN CONSPICUOUS PLACES
AND / OR IN THE INSTITUTION CONCERNED INDICATING THE
PERIOD OF SUSPENSION IN SUCH FORM AND MANNER TO BE
PRESCRIBED BY THE CORPORATION.

A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER WHO AT THE TIME OF TRIAL
FOR AN OFFENSE ENUMERATED HEREIN SHALL HAVE BEEN
PREVIOUSLY CONVICTED BY FINAL JUDGMENT FOR ANY
OFFENSE UNDER THIS ACT MAY NO LONGER BE ACCREDITED
AS PARTICIPANT OF THE NHIP.

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SEC. 49. FINAL PROVISIONS -

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1 SEC. 49-A. PROSECUTION OF OFFENSES - OFFENSES 2 DEFINED UNDER SECTIONS 44s, 45s, 46s and 47s HEREOF, 3 SHALL BE PROSECUTED IN REGULAR COURTS OF JUSTICE OF 4 COMPETENT JURISDICTION WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO 5 ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION THAT MAY BE INSTITUTED BY THE 6 CORPORATION UNDER EXISTING LAWS.

7

8 SEC. 49-B. FILING OF COMPLAINT - THE FILING OF 9 COMPLAINT BEFORE THE CORPORATION SHALL NOT BAR A 10 SEPARATE INDEPENDENT CRIMINAL ACTION BEFORE ANY 11 COURT AGAINST THE ERRING HEALTH CARE PROVIDER OR 12 MEMBER, AND VICE VERSA.

13

SEC. 49-C. EXECUTION OF PENALTY - WHEN AN 14 HEALTH CARE 15 INSTITUTIONAL PROVIDER CEASES OPERATION OR AN INDEPENDENT HEALTH 16 CARE PROFESSIONAL STOPS HIS/HER PRACTICE BEFORE SERVING 17 THE SUSPENSION, EXECUTION OF PENALTY SHALL BE 18 DEFERRED, TO BE IMPLEMENTED WHEN THE SAME OWNER 19 OR MEDICAL DIRECTOR OPENS OR OPERATES A NEW 20 INSTITUTION IRRESPECTIVE OF THE NAME OR LOCATION, OR 21 WHEN THE HEALTH CARE PROVIDER PRACTICES AGAIN. 22 23 PROVIDED, THAT THE DISPOSITIVE PART OF THE REQUIRING PAYMENT OF 24 RESOLUTION FINES, REIMBURSEMENT OF PAID CLAIM OR DENIAL OF PAYMENT 25 SHALL BE IMMEDIATELY EXECUTORY. 26

A SPOUSE OR RELATIVE WITHIN THE SECOND DEGREE
OF CONSANGUINITY OR AFFINITY OF THE OWNER OR
MEDICAL DIRECTOR SHALL BE PRESUMED TO BE THE ALTER
EGO OF SUCH OWNER OR MEDICAL DIRECTOR FOR THE
ABOVE PURPOSES.

DESPITE THE CESSATION OF OPERATION OR PRACTICE
 OF A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER WHILE THE COMPLAINT IS
 BEING HEARD, THE PROCEEDING SHALL CONTINUE UNTIL
 RENDITION OF JUDGMENT FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING

1 FUTURE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE CORPORATION AND THE ERRING HEALTH CARE PROVIDER. 2

3

SEC. 49-D. APPLICABILITY OF THESE PROVISIONS -4 COMPLAINTS ALREADY FILED 5 WITH AND UNDER 6 DELIBERATION BY APPROPRIATE BODIES OF THE CORPORATION PRIOR TO THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT 7 SHALL BE GOVERNED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PREVIOUS 8 ACTS AND THEIR IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. 9

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- 11

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SEC. 49-E. VISITORIAL POWERS - THE CORPORATION SHALL BE VESTED WITH THE FOLLOWING AUTHORITY: 12

- A. TO VISIT, ENTER AND INSPECT HEALTH CARE 14 PROVIDERS' FACILITIES AND TO OBTAIN / SECURE 15 THEIR MEDICAL, FINANCIAL 16 AND OTHER 17 NECESSARY AND / OR PERTINENT RECORDS AND THAT OF THEIR PATIENTS WHO ARE MEMBERS OR 18 BENEFICIARIES OF THE PROGRAM; AND, 19
- В. TO VISIT, ENTER AND INSPECT 20 THE ESTABLISHMENTS OF EMPLOYERS AND 21 TO 22 OBTAIN / SECURE NECESSARY AND / OR PERTINENT RECORDS OF THEIR EMPLOYEES / 23 PERSONNEL. 24
- 25

SEC. 49-F. IMPOSITION OF INTEREST AND 26 SURCHARGES - THE CORPORATION MAY IMPOSE INTEREST 27 AND SURCHARGES OF THREE PERCENT (3%) PER MONTH OR 28 AT ANY RATE AS MAY BE FIXED BY THE CORPORATION IN 29 ANY DELAY IN THE REMITTANCE CASE OF OF 30 CONTRIBUTIONS WHICH ARE DUE WITHIN THE PRESCRIBED 31 PERIOD. NOTHWITHSTANDING THE PROVISION OF ANY LAW 32 MAY ALSO TO THE CONTRARY. THE CORPORATION 33 34 COMPROMISE, WAIVE AND / OR RELEASE, IN WHOLE OR IN PART. SUCH INTEREST OR SURCHARGES UNDER SUCH TERMS 35 36 AND CONDITIONS AS IT MAY PRESCRIBED.

2 SEC. 49-G. OTHER VIOLATIONS - All other violations [involving funds] of the PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT OR OF THE 3 4 **RULES AND REGULATIONS PROMULGATED BY THE Corporation** shall be PUNISHED BY A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN FIVE 5 PESOS (P5.000) NOR MORE THAN TWENTY 6 THOUSAND THOUSAND PESOS (P20,000), OR IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT 7 LESS THAN SIX (6) YEARS AND ONE (1) DAY BUT NOT TO 8 EXCEED TWELVE (12) YEARS OR BOTH, AT THE DISCRETION 9 OF THE COURT. [governed by the applicable provisions of the Revised 10 Penal Code or other laws, taking into consideration the rules on 11 collection, remittances, and investment of funds as may be 12 13 promulgated by the Corporation.]

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15 SECTION 3. Implementing Rules & Regulations - The Philippine 16 Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) shall issue the necessary rules 17 and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

18

19 SECTION 4. *Repealing Clause* – All laws, issuances or any part 20 thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified 21 accordingly.

22

23 SECTION 5. *Effectivity* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days 24 after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) 25 national newspapers of general circulation.

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28 Approved,

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