

Office of the Secretary

SENATE

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P. S. Res. No. 709

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Introduced by Sen. Ralph G. Recto

A RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON GOVERNMENT CORPORATIONS AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES, AND HEALTH AND DEMOGRAPHY TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION (PHILHEALTH), IN LIGHT OF THE IMPENDING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INCREASE IN ANNUAL PREMIUM CONTRIBUTIONS FOR ITS MEMBERS, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE AND AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE SERVICE FOR ALL FILIPINOS.

WHEREAS, it has been declared a policy of the State under Republic Act No. 7875 to provide all citizens with the mechanism to gain financial access to health services, in combination with other government health programs;

WHEREAS, under Republic Act No. 7875, the National Health Insurance Program (NHIP) shall be implemented by the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (Philhealth);

WHEREAS, Philhealth is likewise mandated to evaluate its cost sharing schedule, as needed, to ensure that costs borne by the members are fair and equitable and that the charges by health care providers are reasonable;

WHEREAS, the annual premium contributions collected from and in behalf of members together with the earnings and accruals thereon shall constitute the Philhealth Fund as mandated under Section 28 of RA 7875;

WHEREAS, all contributions made by Philhealth members shall permanently form part of the Philhealth Fund;

WHEREAS, Philhealth has received a total of P12.028 Billion in subsidy from the General Appropriations Act of 2012 for the enrollment of an additional 5.2 Million indigent families in the NHIP;

WHEREAS, Philhealth officials have reported that the corporation has retained earnings of around P110 Billion, accumulated from members' contributions and other investments;

WHEREAS, Philhealth officials have declared through various media outlets that the Board has approved Philhealth Circular No. 22, series of 2011 dated December 15, 2011, which provides for a one hundred percent (100%) increase in annual premium contributions, in support of the attainment of Universal Health Care and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);

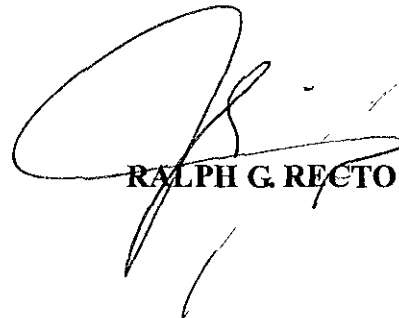
WHEREAS, there has been a public clamor against the impending increase of the annual premium contributions, despite the perceived inadequacy of the healthcare services currently provided by Philhealth as well as the existence of financial reserves of P110 Billion;

WHEREAS, it is imperative for the officials of Philhealth to present before this chamber its detailed financial statements, which include but are not limited to the total income and expenditures,

and information on its retained earnings, in order to determine the need to increase the annual premium contributions of Philhealth;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Philippine Senate, to direct the Committees on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises, and Health and Demography to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the financial status of the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (Philhealth), in light of the impending implementation of the increase in annual premium contributions for its members with the end in view of providing an effective and affordable health care service for all Filipinos.

Adopted,



RALPH G. RECTO