



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 3727

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BY REPRESENTATIVE ROMULO, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 35

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AN ACT REQUIRING HEALTHCARE FACILITIES TO PROVIDE A PRICE LIST OF ITS HEALTHCARE SERVICES INCLUDING INCIDENTAL EXPENSES AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES THAT CAN BE CHARGED IN THE MEDICAL BILL

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

1           SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Healthcare  
2 Services Price Disclosure Act of 2014”.

3           SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to protect  
4 and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness  
5 among them. The State shall enforce a compulsory posting of the price list of  
6 healthcare services, including incidental expenses and medical supplies that  
7 can be charged in the medical bill, to enable the public to obtain accurate and  
8 adequate information that would facilitate and guide them in making a  
9 conscious choice of healthcare facility.

10           SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – For purposes of this Act, the term:

11           (a) *Diagnostic and laboratory clinic* refers to a health facility for  
12 X-ray, CT scans, blood chemistry exams, histopathology and  
13 immunopathology, hematology, urine analysis, parasitology and bacteriology

1 test, serology, blood banking and other diagnostic examinations that are  
2 necessary for the diagnosis and/or treatment of an illness or injury.

3 (b) *Healthcare services* refer to the services for the diagnosis, treatment  
4 and other forms of healthcare of individuals suffering from deformity, disease,  
5 illness or injury, or in need of surgical, obstetrical, medical or nursing care that  
6 are offered, available and provided by the hospitals, ambulatory surgical  
7 centers, diagnostic and laboratory clinics and other medical clinics.

8 The term healthcare services shall also include dental services to  
9 perform oral examination, cleaning, permanent and temporary filling,  
10 extractions and gum treatments, restoration, replacement or repositioning of  
11 teeth, or alteration of the alveolar or periodontium process of the maxilla and  
12 the mandible that are necessary for the diagnosis and/or treatment of a dental  
13 illness or injury.

14 (c) *Healthcare facilities* refer to hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers,  
15 diagnostic and laboratory clinics, medical clinics and/or facilities which  
16 provide healthcare services, as defined under this Act, whether or not there is  
17 an operating room equipment and installed bassinets or beds for the use of  
18 patients in the management of deformities, diseases, injuries, abnormal  
19 physical and mental conditions, and maternity cases.

20 (d) *Incidental expenses* refer to other services provided by the  
21 healthcare facility incidental and in connection with the healthcare services  
22 provided such as, but not limited to, charges for room and amenities, meals,  
23 drugs and medicines, and payments for use of medical equipment and  
24 technology.

25 (e) *Medical bill* refers to the costs of healthcare services rendered by  
26 the healthcare facility including incidental expenses and medical supplies  
27 charged to the patient.

1 (f) *Medical equipment and technology* refer to the equipment designed  
2 to aid in providing healthcare services.

3 (g) *Medical supplies* refer to all healthcare materials and articles used  
4 for providing healthcare services and can be charged in the medical bill.

5 (h) *Patient* refers to a person seeking admission or who is admitted and  
6 has availed of healthcare services in a healthcare facility.

7 (i) *Room and amenities* refer to an occupancy room or a ward room  
8 where a patient is admitted for healthcare services, including a detailed list of  
9 its amenities.

10 SEC. 4. *Price List of Healthcare Services and Incidental Expenses*  
11 *Including Medical Supplies Offered and Charged by a Healthcare Facility.*

12 – Healthcare facilities shall make a price list of its healthcare services,  
13 incidental expenses and medical supplies that can be charged in the medical  
14 bill available to any patient or patient's representative, so that the patient or  
15 patient's representative may adequately exercise the option to choose a  
16 healthcare facility. The price list shall likewise be easily accessible to the  
17 general public and without need of any further inquiry by posting the price list  
18 in a conspicuous place within the premises of the healthcare facility.

19 All medical bills shall list and itemize all healthcare services, incidental  
20 expenses and medical supplies availed or used by the patient with their  
21 corresponding prices charged to the patient.

22 SEC. 5. *Price List of Healthcare Services, Incidental Expenses and*  
23 *Medical Supplies Binding on Healthcare Facility.* – The price list of  
24 healthcare services, incidental expenses and medical supplies shall be binding  
25 on the healthcare facility upon the admission of the patient. Any increase in  
26 the price of healthcare services, incidental expenses and medical supplies shall  
27 take effect only after proper posting as required in this Act: *Provided*, That the  
28 increase shall not affect patients admitted prior to posting of increase in price.

1           SEC. 6. *Penalties.* – (a) Any person who shall violate the provisions  
2 of this Act or its implementing rules and regulations shall be subject to a fine  
3 of not less than Five thousand pesos (P5,000.00) but not more than  
4 Twenty-five thousand pesos (P25,000.00) per instance of violation without  
5 prejudice to administrative sanctions such as suspension or cancellation of  
6 license to practice profession for a period not exceeding sixty (60) days.

7           (b) Any juridical person which violates the provisions of this Act shall  
8 suffer the penalty of a fine of not less than Ten thousand pesos (P10,000.00)  
9 nor more than Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00) per instance of violation and  
10 suspension or revocation of license to operate such healthcare facility for a  
11 period not exceeding sixty (60) days: *Provided*, That its officers directly  
12 responsible for the violation shall suffer the penalty of a fine of not less than  
13 Five thousand pesos (P5,000.00) but not more than Twenty-five thousand  
14 pesos (P25,000.00) per instance of violation and suspension or revocation of  
15 license to practice profession for a period not exceeding sixty (60) days:  
16 *Provided, further*, That if the guilty party is an alien, he shall be *ipso facto*  
17 deported after payment of fine without need of further proceedings.

18           The Secretary of Health shall have the authority to impose the  
19 administrative fines and sanctions provided herein including suspension or  
20 revocation of license to operate such healthcare facility or recommend  
21 suspension of license to practice profession to the Professional Regulation  
22 Commission as the case may be for the violation of this Act.

23           SEC. 7. *Implementing Agency.* -- The Department of Health (DOH)  
24 shall enforce the provisions of this Act and its implementing rules and  
25 regulations.

1           SEC. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within ninety (90)  
2 days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOH, in coordination with the  
3 Department of the Interior and Local Government, shall issue the rules and  
4 regulations to effectively implement the provisions of this Act.

5           SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any part or provision of this Act  
6 shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions hereof that are  
7 not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

8           SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.* – All other laws, decrees, executive  
9 orders, proclamations and administrative regulations or parts thereof  
10 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified  
11 accordingly.

12           SEC. 11. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)  
13 days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in any newspaper of general  
14 circulation.

Approved,

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