



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 5955

BY REPRESENTATIVES SANTIAGO, VIOLAGO, TAN (A.), RODRIGUEZ (M.),
RODRIGUEZ (R.), SUANSING, CO, BATOCABE, UMALI (C.), CHIPECO,
BELMONTE (J.), RELAMPAGOS, QUIMBO, ERIGUEL, ARENAS,
AMATONG (I.), TING, ARAGONES, VILLARICA, TEJADA, TAMBUNTING,
OCAMPO, UNGAB, ANGPING AND LANETE, PER COMMITTEE REPORT
No. 806

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FREE BASIC MEDICINE ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM IN ALL GOVERNMENT HEALTH FACILITIES
NATIONWIDE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

*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 “Free Basic
2 Medicine Assistance Act”.

3 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of
4 the State to protect and promote the right to health and well-being of every
5 Filipino and to adopt a system of implementing the delivery of free basic
6 medicines to those who have less in life in all health facilities in the country,
7 giving priority to the underprivileged, ailing, malnourished, elderly, women,
8 children, disabled, and the poorest of the poor.

1 SEC. 3. *Objectives.* -- This Act pursues the following objectives:

2 (a) To promote optimal health and well-being of every Filipino by
3 improved access to medicines; and

4 (b) To address the health needs of the marginalized sectors such as the
5 poor, malnourished, elderly, women, children and the disabled through the
6 establishment of a Free Basic Medicine Assistance Program in all government
7 health facilities nationwide.

8 SEC. 4. *Establishment of Free Basic Medicine Assistance Program.* --

9 There shall be established a Free Basic Medicine Assistance Program,
10 hereinafter referred to as the "Libreng Gamot Program", to be administered by
11 the Department of Health (DOH) through government district hospitals, local
12 health units and barangay health centers in all cities and municipalities, in
13 coordination with the Department of Social Welfare and Development
14 (DSWD).

15 SEC. 5. *Eligible Beneficiaries.* -- The Libreng Gamot Program shall

16 be restricted to qualified poor recipients as certified by the barangay and the
17 DSWD officials.

18 SEC. 6. *Availment of Free Basic Medicines.* -- Free basic medicines

19 shall be made available in all government district hospitals, local health units
20 and barangay health centers. These health facilities shall account for all the
21 medicines released to qualified beneficiaries through the submission of
22 quarterly reports to the DOH.

23 SEC. 7. *Appropriations.* -- The amount needed for the initial

24 implementation of this Act shall be charged against the appropriations of the
25 DOH. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued
26 implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General
27 Appropriations Act.

1 SEC. 8. *Rules and Regulations.* – The DOH, in coordination with the
2 DSWD and in consultation with the Philippine Medical Association (PMA),
3 shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to effectively implement
4 the provisions of this Act within six (6) months from the effectivity hereof.

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

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

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

Approved,

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