



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 9186

BY REPRESENTATIVES RODRIGUEZ (M.), SY-ALVARADO, ACOSTA-ALBA, HERRERA-DY, UY (J.), LIMKAICHONG, VILLARICA, BORDADO, AGGABAO, CAMPOS, VERGARA, BULUT-BEGTANG, TAMBUNTING, CASTRO (F.H.), ROA-PUNO, HOFER, ORTEGA (V.N.), PALMA, NOEL, SALO, GONZALES (A.P.), PIMENTEL, SAVELLANO, GARIN (R.), GARCIA (J.E.), FORTUN, BRAVO (A.), BERTIZ, SALON, BELARO, GULLAS, TEJADA, VIOLAGO, ZUBIRI, ALEJANO, GONZALES (A.D.), CHIPECO, GO (M.), MANGAOANG, CARI, TREÑAS, FERNANDO, NUÑEZ-MALANYAON, TUPAS, BATAOIL, CUARESMA, ROMUALDO, SILVERIO, DALIPE, CALDERON AND MARCOLETA, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1316

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH HOME VISITATION PROGRAM

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
2 the “Expanded Maternal and Infant Care Act”.

3 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is a policy of the State to
4 equally protect the life of the mother and the life of the unborn from
5 conception. In line with this policy, the State shall, in addition to
6 maternity care services provided in health facilities, administer
7 prenatal and postnatal maternity and infant care services under a
8 home visitation program in order to protect the health and well-being
9 of mothers and infants.

1 SEC. 3. *Definition of Term.* – As used in this Act, the term
2 “poor” shall refer to income brackets that fall below the poverty
3 threshold defined by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) based
4 on the most recent Family Income and Expenditure Survey (FIES).

5 SEC. 4. *Establishment of Maternal and Infant Health Home*
6 *Visitation Program.* – The Secretary of the Department of Health
7 (DOH) shall require health centers to designate an appropriate
8 health professional or a qualified nonprofessional acting under the
9 supervision of a health care professional who shall render maternal
10 and infant care services in the home of eligible individuals.

11 SEC. 5. *Eligibility to Avail of Home Visitation Services.* –
12 A pregnant woman not more than twenty-one (21) years old, or
13 families with an infant up to the age of one (1) year, belonging to the
14 low-income brackets below the poverty threshold shall be eligible to
15 receive the maternal and infant care services provided under this Act.

16 SEC. 6. *Maternal and Infant Health Services.* – The
17 maternal and infant care services that shall be provided in the
18 home of eligible individuals shall include the following:

19 (a) Instruction and counseling concerning all aspects of
20 prenatal care, childbirth, and motherhood;

21 (b) Nutrition counseling;

22 (c) General family counseling, including child and family
23 development; and

24 (d) Physical examination or referral for further medical care
25 for a mother and/or infant.

26 SEC. 7. *Prohibition on Abortion.* – Any maternal and infant
27 care service which shall be made available under this Act shall not
28 be construed to advocate, promote, or encourage abortion.

1 SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof
2 is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the
3 provision or part not otherwise affected shall remain valid and
4 subsisting.

5 SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or
6 issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order,
7 rule, or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of
8 this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

9 SEC. 10. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
10 days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of
11 general circulation.

Approved,

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