



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 8259

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BY REPRESENTATIVES SALCEDA, CUARESMA, ROMERO, UMALI (A.), TAMBUNTING, CABOCHAN, RODRIGUEZ, SUANSING (E.), ONG (J.), QUIMBO, DY (F.), DEFENSOR (L.), LACSON, VILLA, GO (M.), GARIN (S.), CASTRO (F.L.), KHO (W.), BIAZON, HARESCO, REYES, FARIÑAS (R.C.), DELOSO-MONTALLA, GARCIA (J.E.), SUNTAY, SUANSING (H.), VIOLAGO, SAVELLANO, NOLASCO, ESPINO, FUENTEBELLA, TEJADA, LAGON, ARENAS, DAGOOC, ESCUDERO, ECLEO, SALO, BASCUG, LEGARDA, ABU, GUICO, TAN (A.S.), VELASCO, CHIPECO, MARIANO-HERNANDEZ, RIVERA, VILLANUEVA (E.) AND NIETO, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 696

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AN ACT  
PROVIDING INCOME TAX RELIEF TO MEDICAL FRONTLINERS FOR TAXABLE  
YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY

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

- 1 SECTION 1. Short Title.- This Act shall be known as the "*Handog sa mga Bayaning Lumaban*
- 2 *Kontra COVID-19 Act.*"
- 3 SEC. 2. Definition of terms. – As used in this Act, the following terms shall mean:

1 a. Income – refers to the amount of salary or compensation being received by medical front  
2 liners who are working or employed in a medical institution.

3 b. Medical Frontliners – refer to persons who are engaged in health-related services and are  
4 employed in hospitals, clinics, or other medical institutions, whether public or private,  
5 which treat patients infected with COVID-19. The term shall include administrative  
6 employees, support personnel and staff of said medical institutions, regardless of their  
7 employment status.

8 c. Medical institution – refers to any public or private hospital, clinic or other facility that  
9 test, accept, and treat patients afflicted with COVID-19.

10 **SEC. 3. Exemption from Income Tax.** – Effective January 1, 2020, all medical frontliners shall  
11 be exempted from paying twenty-five percent (25%) of income tax due for taxable year 2020  
12 subject to rules and regulations to be formulated by the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR).

13 **SEC. 4. Coverage of the Income Tax Exemption.** – The exemption granted in this Act shall only  
14 cover the salary or compensation, as well as the gross receipts from the exercise of profession or  
15 employment received by frontliners for taxable year 2020. The income tax exemption shall not  
16 include those income received by the medical frontliners from their other businesses,  
17 investments and other kinds of passive income not related to serving, treating caring, aiding,  
18 assisting COVID-19 patients: Provided, That medical frontliners are still required to file returns  
19 for the Percentage Tax, Value Added Tax (VAT), and Quarterly Income Tax with the proper  
20 Revenue District Offices.

21 **SEC. 5. Extension of Tax Exemption.** – The Secretary of the Department of Finance is hereby  
22 given the authority to extend, for a period of not more than six (6) months, the payment of  
23 income tax to qualified frontliners.

1 **SEC. 6. Rules and Regulations.** – Within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, the  
2 Bureau of Internal Revenue, in coordination with the Department of Health, shall issue the  
3 necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

4 **SEC. 7. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, executive issuances, rules and regulations  
5 contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

6 **SEC. 8. *Effectivity Clause.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in  
7 the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

8 *Approved,*