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NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

RECEIVED BY: 

SENATE
S. No. 189

Introduced by Senator Christopher Lawrence "Bong" T. Go

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR A FREE ANNUAL MEDICAL CHECK-UP FOR ALL FILIPINOS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 11223 or the Universal Health Care Act mandated the inclusion of every Filipino citizen to the National Health Insurance Program. By virtue of this landmark legislation, all Filipinos can avail the services and benefits provided by PhilHealth. The landmark law also required PhilHealth to implement a comprehensive outpatient benefit package.

To cover for the benefits provided by PhilHealth and sustain the implementation of the National Health Insurance Program, the law also increased premium rate contributions every year until 2025. For every increase in the rate of contribution, the law mandated PhilHealth to provide for a corresponding increase in benefits.

In line with our desire to advance the health and well-being of Filipinos and prevent disease, and consistent with the provisions of the Universal Health Care Act, this proposed measure mandates PhilHealth to establish and implement a Free Annual Medical Check Up program which will allow all Filipinos to undergo screening, laboratory and diagnostic tests, and consultation free of charge.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this measure is earnestly sought.


SENATOR CHRISTOPHER LAWRENCE "BONG" T. GO



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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 "*Free Annual Medical Check-*
2 *Up Act of 2022.*"

3
4 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policies.* – It is the policy of the State to support and promote
5 the right to health by enhancing programs which focus on preventive and curative
6 medicine that advance the health and well-being of Filipinos and prevent disease,
7 disability, and death. Pursuant thereto, Filipinos shall be entitled to an annual medical
8 check-up that is free of charge.

9
10 Sec. 3. *Coverage.* - All Filipino citizens, by virtue of membership in the Philippine
11 Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) mandated under Republic Act No. 11223, or
12 the "Universal Health Care Law", shall be entitled to the applicable benefits under the
13 National Health Insurance Program including a free annual medical check-up.

14

1 *Sec. 4. Annual Medical Check-Up Program.* - To promote health, identify risks, and
2 ensure early diagnosis, PhilHealth, in consultation with the Department of Health (DOH),
3 shall establish a system in line with its Comprehensive Outpatient Benefit Package that
4 allows access to an annual medical check-up program at least once each calendar year
5 that shall include physical examination, screening, laboratory and diagnostic tests, and
6 follow up consultation to all members of PhilHealth free of charge: Provided, That, the
7 duration of the availment of the Annual Medical Check-Up Program shall be for the whole
8 calendar year.

9
10 *Sec. 5. Screening, tests and consultation.* - Prior to the availment of laboratory and
11 diagnostic tests under the Annual Medical Check-Up Program, the patient shall first be
12 physically examined and screened by a PhilHealth-accredited primary care provider to
13 evaluate the patient based on his/her individual needs anchored on his/her health and
14 age risks, and identify which laboratory and diagnostic tests should be administered to
15 the patient: Provided, That, the availment of the laboratory and diagnostic tests shall be
16 through PhilHealth-accredited health care institutions (HCIs): Provided, further, That the
17 corresponding medical consultation after the release of the test results shall be done by
18 PhilHealth-accredited health care professionals.

19
20 PhilHealth shall identify laboratory and diagnostic tests to be included in the Free
21 Annual Medical Check-Up Program based on current and emerging health necessities of
22 Filipinos. Laboratory and diagnostic tests included in the Program shall be expanded,
23 subject to the availability of PhilHealth funds.

24
25 *Sec. 6. Accreditation.* — PhilHealth shall accredit, based on its existing guidelines,
26 health care professionals, primary health care providers and health care institutions which
27 will administer the physical examination, screening, laboratory and diagnostic tests and
28 consultation provided under the Annual Medical Check-Up Program.

1 Local Government Units (LGUs) are encouraged to ensure that there are enough
2 PhilHealth-accredited health facilities where their constituents can readily access the
3 Annual Medical Check-Up Program. Towards this end, LGUs are encouraged register their
4 health facilities and rural health units for accreditation of PhilHealth.

5
6 *Sec. 7. Implementation.* — To allow PhilHealth to accredit the appropriate number of
7 health care professionals, primary health care providers and health care facilities to
8 effectively and efficiently implement the Annual Medical Check-Up Program, PhilHealth
9 shall develop a plan for the phased implementation of this Act in line with the
10 implementation and development of its Comprehensive Outpatient Benefit Package:
11 Provided, That, the Annual Medical Check-Up Program shall be made available to all
12 Filipinos within two (2) years from the effectivity of this Act.

13
14 *Sec. 8. Appropriations.* — The amount necessary to implement this Act shall be
15 charged against the total revenue of PhilHealth, composed of premium contributions from
16 direct contributors and premium subsidies of the government for the indirect contributors.

17
18 *Sec. 9. Separability Clause.* — If any clause, sentence, paragraph or part of this Act
19 shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, such judgment shall not affect, invalidate or
20 impact any other part of this Act.

21
22 *Sec. 10. Repealing Clause.* — Any provision of laws, orders, agreements, rules or
23 regulations contrary to and inconsistent with this Act is hereby repealed, amended or
24 modified accordingly.

25
26 *Sec. 11. Effectivity.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
27 in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,