

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 209

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	
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Introduced by Representative MICAELA S. VIOLAGO

EXPLANATORY NOTE


Republic Act No. 10645 provides for the mandatory Philhealth Coverage of all Senior Citizens. With the new law, all senior citizens in the country shall be given access to health care through the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation.

Another vulnerable sector that needs health protection are Persons With Disabilities (PWDs). In the 2015 Census, however, disability questions were not included by the Philippine Statistics Authority since according to them, question on disability will be included in the 2020 Census of Population and Housing. The 2010 Census on Population and Housing estimates that around 16 per thousand Filipinos have disability. With our current population of 100 Million, that translates to about 1.6 M Filipinos living with a disability.

According to the World Health Organization, people with disabilities, though having the same health needs as non-disabled people, have less access to health care services and therefore experience unmet health care needs. Evidence also suggests that people with disabilities face barriers in accessing the health and rehabilitation services they need in many settings. This should not be the case.

This measure therefore mandates the mandatory coverage of all registered PWDs to allow them access to health care if and when necessary.

PWDs deserve our all-out support to help alleviate their conditions. Therefore, early passage of this bill is being requested.


MICAELA S. VIOLAGO
Second District, Nueva Ecija

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Introduced by Representative **MICAELA S. VIOLAGO**

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MANDATORY PHILHEALTH COVERAGE FOR ALL PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PWDs), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7277, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9442, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “MAGNA CARTA FOR DISABLED PERSONS”, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Title Two, Chapter 8, Section 33, of Republic Act No. 7727, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“CHAPTER 8. Other Privileges and Incentives”

“SEC. 32. Persons with disability shall be entitled to the following:

“(k) xxx

“(l) MANDATORY PHILHEALTH COVERAGE

“ALL PERSONS WITH DISABILITY SHALL BE COVERED BY THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM OF PHILHEALTH. FUNDS NECESSARY TO ENSURE THE ENROLLMENT OF ALL PWDs NOT CURRENTLY COVERED BY ANY EXISTING CATEGORY SHALL BE SOURCED FROM THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE FUND OF PHILHEALTH FROM PROCEEDS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10351, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PERTINENT LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

“xxx”

SEC. 2. Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) – The Department of Health and the Department of Social Welfare and Development shall come up with the IRR, within three (3) months after the law’s effectivity.

SEC. 3. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 4. Effectivity – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,