# Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF THE REPRESENTATIVES Quezon City

### SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 524

RECEIVED

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TIME: G. P. D. P.

BY: J. J. P. J. J. P. J. P

REGISTRATION UNIT
BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE

Introduced by HON. ALFREDO A. GARBIN, Jr., HON. RODEL M. BATOCABE and HON. CHRISTOPHER S. CO

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to provide for mandatory PhilHealth coverage for persons with disabilities.

Persons with mental, mobility, hearing, and visual disability have historically been marginalized in Philippine society. With the enactment of the RA 7277, or the *Magna Carta for Disabled Persons*, PWDs are now recognized to be an important part of the society, with the same rights as other people, to take their proper place in nation building. While enjoying the same rights, it is undeniable that PWDs have higher demand for medical and health services from the government due to their physical disabilities.

According to the latest available data from the 2010 Philippine Census, almost 1.5 million household population in the country or 1.57 percent had disability. This number is expected to have increased by 2015 Philippine Census data, if PWDs were not left out. While there are PWDs employed, many are unemployed and are dependent on the income of other family members.

This Act will alleviate the burden on households with PWDs by providing for their automatic health insurance coverage under the national health insurance program of PhilHealth. Once enacted into law, all PWDs who have significantly so much less in life, will have more assistance for their medical and health care needs.

In view of the foregoing, the urgent passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

ALFREDO A. GARBIN, Jr.

RODEL M. BATOCABE

CHRISTOPHER'S. CO

## Seventeenth Congress First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 524

## Introduced by Rep. ALFREDO A. GARBIN, Jr., Rep. CHRISTOPHER S. CO, and Rep. RODEL M. BATOCABE

| AN ACT PROVIDING FOR MANDATORY PHILHEALTH COVERAGE FOR ALL       |
|--|
| PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT |
| NO. 7277, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "MAGNA CARTA FOR    |
| PERSONS WITH DISABILITY", PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER |
| PURPOSES   |

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

SECTION 1. Short Title - This Act shall be known as the "Mandatory PhilHealth Coverage for All PWDs Act"

SECTION 2. A New section is hereby added after Section 18 under "Chapter III. HEALTH" of Republic Act 7277, as amended otherwise known as the "Magna Carta for Persons with Disability", to read as follows:

#### CHAPTER III. HEALTH

Sec. 18. X X X

Sec. 19. – 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 Insurance Fund of PhilHealth from proceeds of Republic Act 10351, in accordance with the pertinent laws and regulations.

- SECTION 3. The succeeding sections of Republic Act No. 7277, as amended, are hereby renumbered accordingly.
- 31 SECTION 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations*. The Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (Philhealth) and the Department of Social Welfare and Development
- (DSWD) shall promulgate, not later than thirty (30) days upon the effectivity of this Act,
- the necessary rules and regulation for its proper and effective implementation.

SECTION 5. 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.

SECTION 6. 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.

43 Approved,