

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL 591

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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Introduced by Representative Mariano Michael M. Velarde Jr. (BUHAY Party List)

EXPLANATORY NOTE

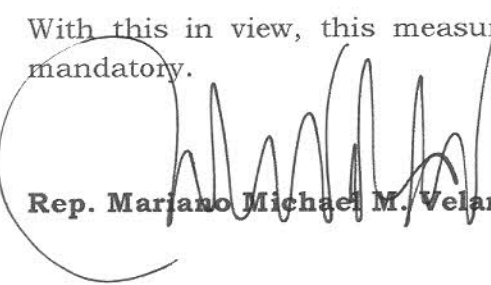
After more than two decades of formal recognition of the value of persons with disabilities and mandating the role of government through the enactment of R.A. 7277 otherwise known as "Magna Carta for Disabled Persons" and despite the many laudable strides in the protection and promotion of their rights and welfare, there are some areas that need to be address.

One area to be attended to is in the area of Health services. Due to their situation and as enunciated in R.A. 7277, persons with disabilities have higher demand for medical and health services which was further recognized under R.A. 10606 or the National Insurance Act of 2013 amending R.A. 7875 to include persons with disabilities as beneficiaries of the National Health Insurance Program under the Philippine Health Insurance, Inc. or PhilHealth.

On the other hand, even though it is stipulated in Section 2 of R.A. 10606 amending Section 2 of R.A. 7875 that PWDs as beneficiaries of PhilHealth, it fall short in covering all PWDs making it optional and conditional. In effect, there are many PWDs left on their own their families to shoulder their medical and health needs. This representation experienced similar predicament when I had an accident leaving me and my family to pay for all the cost of my hospitalization, recovery and rehabilitation.

This BUHAY Bill was filed last 16th Congress and we are again proposing this measure to address the concern of PWD's on their medical needs.

With this in view, this measure seeks to make PhilHealth coverage for all PWDs mandatory.


Rep. Mariano Michael M. Velarde Jr.

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HOUSE BILL 591

Introduced by Representative Mariano Michael M. Velarde Jr. (BUHAY Party List)

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

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MANDATORY PHILHEALTH COVERAGE FOR ALL PERSONS WITH DISABILITY AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE R.A. 7277 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "MAGNA CARTA FOR DISABLED PERSONS"

Section 1. - This Act shall be known as the "Mandatory Philhealth Coverage for Disables Persons"

Section 2. - Section 20 of Chapter III is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 20. - Health services

"XXX"

(c). Mandatory Philhealth Coverage-

All persons with disability shall be covered by the national health insurance program of the PhilHealth. Funds necessary to ensure the enrollment of all persons with disability not currently covered by any existing category shall be sourced from the National Health Insurance Fund of Philhealth from proceeds of R.A. 10351, in accordance with pertinent laws and regulations.

Section 3. - Repealing Clause. - Section 34 (h), Article IV of Republic Act No. 4136 is hereby amended and, furthermore, any law, executive order, decree, issuance, ordinance, rule and regulation or any part thereof contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is also hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

Section 4. - Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.


REP. MARIANO MICHAEL M. VELARDE JR.