

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Resolution No. 453



Introduced by
ANAKALUSUGAN PARTY-LIST REPRESENTATIVE MICHAEL T. DEFENSOR

**RESOLUTION URGING BOTH HOUSES OF CONGRESS
TO IMMEDIATELY IMPLEMENT THE INCREASE IN BASE PAY OF NURSES IN THE
PUBLIC SECTOR FROM SALARY GRADE 11 TO SALARY GRADE 15**

WHEREAS, Section 32 of Republic Act 9173 (Philippine Nursing Act), approved in 21 October 2002, states that the minimum base pay of nurses working in public-health institutions shall not be lower than Salary Grade 15, to wit;

“SEC. 32. Salary – In order to enhance the general welfare, commitment to service and professionalism of nurses, **the minimum base pay of nurses working in public health institutions shall not be lower than salary grade 15** prescribed under Republic Act No. 6758...”

WHEREAS, when Joint Resolution No. 4 (Salary Standardization 3) was approved on 17 June 2009, it explicitly cited R.A. 9173 in its amendatory provision;

WHEREAS, when Executive Order 811 was issued to implement the first tranche of Joint Resolution No. 4, its Section 6 stated that the Salary Grade for the position of "Nurse I be increased from Salary Grade 10 to 11", hence impliedly amending Section 32 of R.A. 9173 which mandated a Salary Grade 15 for Nurse I positions.

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court recently upheld in the case of *Ang Nars Party List vs. The Executive Secretary, et. al.*¹ that the Philippine Nursing Act is controlling since a Republic Act cannot be amended by a mere resolution or executive directive, thus the entry level of public nurses must stand at Salary Grade 15;


WHEREAS, the Supreme Court's decision, however, refused to compel the implementation of Section 32 of the Philippine Nursing Act since "its implementation would necessarily require a law passed by Congress providing the necessary funds for it."²

WHEREAS, in order to implement the Supreme Court decision to benefit our nurses, Congress may opt to 1) issue a Joint Resolution that shall authorize the increase in base pay of public nurses, 2) authorize the increase in nurses' pay from the miscellaneous personnel benefits fund from the budget, or 3) include the implementation of the increase in the upcoming Salary Standardization Law;

WHEREAS, in any case, there is a need to immediately implement the increase in base pay of public nurses in order to make it commensurate with their critical role in giving quality health services;

THEREFORE, be it resolved as it is hereby resolved that Congress immediately implement the increase in base pay of nurses in the public sector from salary grade 11 to salary grade 15

Adopted,


MICHAEL T. DEFENSOR
Representative
ANAKALUSUGAN PARTY-LIST

¹ G.R. No. 21574

² <https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/10/09/19/govt-nurses-must-be-paid-no-less-than-p30k-rules-supreme-court>