

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City



**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
**Second Regular Session**

House Bill No. 7908

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Introduced by **MAGDALO Party-List Representative**  
**HON. MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Article 2, Section 11 of the 1987 Constitution provides that:

*"The State values the dignity of every human person and guarantees full respect for human rights."*

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought fear and panic in the country as numbers of infected cases rise. Sadly, the pandemic has also inflicted prejudice and discriminatory acts towards the frontliners, especially our healthcare workers due to the nature of their work. There have been incidents of health workers being evicted out of their residences and refused services in eateries or transportations over fears of contracting the disease.

Hence, this bill seeks to amend specific provisions of Republic Act No. 11332, also known as the Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Concern Act. This proposed measure seeks to protect our health workers, frontliners, and patients against acts of discrimination and all forms of violence connected to their duty of work or medical circumstances.

We recognize the sacrifices and devotion of our public healthcare workers. They do not deserve unjust treatment. Thus, the government should be at the forefront of instituting policies that would protect them against prejudice and discrimination. It is in this light that the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



**MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III**

*Representative*

Magdalo Para Sa Pilipino Party-List

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**AN ACT**  
**AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11332, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE**  
**MANDATORY REPORTING OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES AND HEALTH EVENTS**  
**OF PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERN ACT**

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

1           SECTION 1. *Short Title.*— This Act shall be entitled as the “Mandatory  
2 Protection of Health Workers, Frontliners and Patients Act”.

3  
4           SEC. 2. Section 9 of Republic Act No. 11332, otherwise known as the  
5 “Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Health  
6 Concern Act”, is hereby amended to read as follows:

7  
8           “Sec. 9. *Prohibited Acts.*— The following shall be prohibited under this Act:

9  
10           (a) Unauthorized disclosure of private and confidential information pertaining  
11           to a patient’s medical condition or treatment;

- 1 (b) Tampering of records or intentionally providing misinformation;  
2 (c) Non-operation of the disease surveillance and response systems;  
3 (d) Non-cooperation of persons and entities that should report and/or  
4 response to notifiable disease or health events of public concern; and  
5 (e) Non-cooperation of the person or entities identified as having the  
6 notifiable disease, or affected by the health event of public concern;  
7 **(f) ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION, OR UNFAIR OR UNJUST**  
8 **TREATMENT AGAINST A HEALTH WORKER, A FRONTLINER, OR**  
9 **ANY ACT THAT HAS THE EFFECT OF ACTUALLY CAUSING OR**  
10 **PLACING THE SAME UNDER A REASONABLE FEAR OF PHYSICAL**  
11 **OR EMOTIONAL HARM, OR IMPEDES THE CONDUCT OF DUTIES,**  
12 **PROVIDED THAT IF THE SAME ACT IS PUNISHABLE UNDER A**  
13 **DIFFERENT LAW, THE LAW IMPOSES A HIGHER PENALTY WILL**  
14 **APPLY; AND**  
15 **(g) ALL FORMS OF PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL**  
16 **VIOLENCE, OR THE THREAT THEREOF OF SUCH VIOLENCE,**  
17 **AGAINST AN INDIVIDUAL SUSPECTED OF BEING, OR**  
18 **CONFIRMED TO BE, A CARRIER OF THE NOTIFIABLE DISEASE,**  
19 **WHETHER THE SAME IS TRUE OR NOT.”**

20  
21 SEC. 3. *Effectivity Clause.*— This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days  
22 upon publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,