



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Constitution Hills, Batasan Complex, Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 156



Introduced by Representatives **ALFEL M. BASCUG** and
EDDIEBONG G. PLAZA

Explanatory Note

The 1987 Philippine Constitution under Article II, Section 12 provides that “the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them”. It further mandates the State to adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development making its services available to all people while prioritizing the needs of the underprivileged sick, elderly, disabled, women and children.

The recent enactment of the Universal Healthcare Law signifies the State’s earnestness to pursue the said mandate with vigor and urgency. The next prudent step in ensuring that every Filipino will have free and equitable access to health services is the provision of free annual medical check-ups to all in government hospital institutions. It cannot be more emphasized that routine health screenings detect early signs of life-threatening conditions before it gets worst; hence, it decreases healthcare cost over time. It has been often said that health is wealth and a nation’s wealth is its people. Without a healthy population, there is no national development to speak of.

This proposed legislation was approved by the House of Representatives in the 18th Congress and was duly transmitted to the Senate. This is refiled for the same considerations as when it was previously approved.

Considering the foregoing, the passage of this measure is earnestly sought.

ALFEL M. BASCUG
1ST District, Agusan del Sur

EDDIEBONG G. PLAZA
2nd District, Agusan del Sur



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**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A FREE ANNUAL MEDICAL CHECK-UP FOR
FILIPINOS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* -This Act shall be known as the “Free Annual Medical Check-Up Act”

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Principle.* -It is the policy of the State to support and promote the right to health by enhancing programs which focus on preventive and curative medicine that advance the health and well-being of Filipinos and prevent disease, disability and death. Pursuant thereto, Filipinos shall be entitled to an annual medical check-up that is free of charge in any government hospital institution.

SECTION 3. *Coverage.* -All Filipino citizens, by virtue of their membership in the Philippine Health Insurance Coverage (PhilHealth) mandated under Republic Act No. 11223, or the “Universal Health Care Law,” shall be entitled to the applicable benefits under the Philippine Health Insurance Program.

Member shall be entitled to a free annual medical check-up that shall include blood sugar and cholesterol tests. Laboratory and diagnostic tests shall be expanded, subject to the availability of PhilHealth funds.

SECTION 4. *Schedule of Free Medical Check-Up.* -To promote health, identify risks, and ensure early diagnosis, PhilHealth shall establish a system that allows access to a free annual medical check-up and ensure that Filipinos shall be accorded the quality health care services that they deserve.

SECTION 5. *Appropriations.* - The amount necessary to implement this Act shall be charged against the PhilHealth funds.

SECTION 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The Department of Health shall in coordination with PhilHealth, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act not later than ninety (90) days from its effectivity.

SECTION 7. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations, inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,