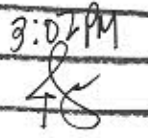


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1642

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	
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Introduced by HON. LINABELLE RUTH R. VILLARICA
4TH DISTRICT, BULACAN

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The State must encourage more drug dependents to undergo treatment and rehabilitation, at low-cost drug rehabilitation centers.

Presently, however, the expensive drug rehabilitation establishments discourage families of drug dependents from being treated. In a 2009 survey, only 2,000 of the 1.7 million drug dependents underwent treatment and rehabilitation.

This proposed bill seeks to address this concern by mandating the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHIC) to cover its beneficiaries who are drug dependents and who submit to treatment and rehabilitation to an accredited health care provider shall be at an affordable cost.

This is in accordance with Republic Act No.7875 or *An Act Instituting a National Health Insurance Program for all Filipinos and Establishing the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth)* as amended by R.A. No. 9241 which included drug abuse and dependency treatment as among those personal services covered. It also recognized rehabilitation centers as health institutions where health care providers are employed.

Support for the enactment of this measure is earnestly requested.



REP. LINABELLE RUTH R. VILLARICA

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1642

Introduced by HON. LINABELLE RUTH R. VILLARICA
4TH DISTRICT, BULACAN

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR AFFORDABLE DRUG REHABILITATION TREATMENT FOR THE
PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION (PHIC) BENEFICIARIES,
FURTHER AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7875 AS AMENDED

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

SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy.* – It shall be the policy of the State to adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development including the rehabilitation treatment of drug dependents and individuals victimized by the menace of drug abuse. With the alarming and continuously increasing drug addiction, a faceless enemy that ruins countless lives and cripples the potentials of our youth, the State affirms a policy of society against drugs and for the purpose, provides affordable drug rehabilitation treatment for the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation beneficiaries.

SEC. 2. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 7875, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“Section 4. *Definition of Terms.* – For the purpose of this Act, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

xxx

ZZ) DRUG DEPENDENT – AS DEFINED UNDER R.A. No. 9165 (COMPREHENSIVE DANGEROUS DRUGS ACT OF 2002), A PERSON EXHIBITING A CLUSTER OF PHYSIOLOGICAL, BEHAVIORAL AND COGNITIVE PHENOMENA OF VARIABLE INTENSITY, IN WHICH THE USE OF PSYCHOACTIVE DRUG TAKES ON A HIGH PRIORITY THEREBY INVOLVING, AMONG OTHERS, A STRONG DESIRE OR A SENSE OF COMPULSION TO TAKE THE SUBSTANCE AND THE DIFFICULTIES IN CONTROLLING SUBSTANCE-TAKING BEHAVIOR IN TERMS OF ITS ONSET, TERMINATION, OR LEVELS OF USE.

SEC. 3. Section 10 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 10. Benefit Package –

Members and their dependents are entitled to the following minimum services, subject to the limitations specified in this Act and as may be determined by the Corporation”

xxx

d) Such other health care services that the Corporation and the DOH shall determine to be appropriated and cost-effective. These services and packages shall be reviewed annually to determine their financial sustainability and relevance to health innovations, with the end in view of quality assurance, increased benefits and reduces out-of-pocket expenditure [-] ; AND

E) REHABILITATION TREATMENT OF DRUG DEPENDENTS

- (1) ROOM AND BOARD;
- (2) SERVICES OF HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS;
- (3) PRESCRIPTION DRUGS AND BIOLOGICALS, SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS STATED IN SECTION 37 OF THIS ACT.

THESE SERVICES AND PACKAGES SHALL BE REVIEWED ANNUALLY IN KEEPING WITH ITS PROTECTION OBJECTIVES AND FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY.

SEC. 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHIC) shall issue the necessary implementing rules and regulations in consultation with the Dangerous Drugs Board and relevant sectors for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, issuances, or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 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, whichever comes earlier.

Approved,