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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3107



Introduced by Hon. Anthony Peter "Onyx" D. Crisologo

AN ACT ASSIGNING ONE (1) MEDICAL DOCTOR FOR EVERY BARANGAY HEALTH CENTER IN THE PHILIPPINES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Health Care System of the Philippines has a lot to improve on particularly in the delivery of its services. In the explanation of the Department of Health about the current situation of the Health Care Delivery System in the Philippines, they stated that although it has already greatly evolved, the problem of fragmentation is still present.¹

The Government has been working hard to deploy health workers in every barangay, but it is imperative to further push its initiatives to provide a responsive and holistic health care. Sustained efforts to promote and enhance the delivery of basic services is needed from the government to ensure that everyone, specifically people in far-flung areas, can have better access to it.

This bill aims to employ doctors for every barangay to give a synchronized and quality service to every citizen. Although Barangay Health Workers have trained rigorously, their functions are very limited. Thus, it is important to consider emergency cases that require the expertise of a doctor. Serious illnesses should be identified and treated immediately to avoid death. Having health professionals, especially a doctor, in a barangay health unit will help in the immediate arrest of an emergency health situation that may lead to a bigger crisis (e.g. cholera, dengue epidemic, etc.) Moreover, this would help save government resources and avoid over stretching its efforts.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

ANTHONY PETER ONYX" D. CRISOLOGO

Representative
First District, Quezon City

¹ The Philippine Health System at a Glance (n.d.)

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Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the

Section 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "A Doctor in

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is hereby declared the policy of the Sate to provide the Filipino people better access to health care by giving priority measures that would effectively improve the delivery of health care services to the people.

For this purpose, the State shall institutionalize a program that requires all Local Government Units to provide a medical doctor in every barangay within the boundaries of their jurisdiction.

Section 3. Employment of Physician in Every Barangay. - It is hereby instituted a program for the employment of physician in every Barangay Health Center for the purpose of enhancing the delivery of public health care services. Accordingly, each Local Government Unit is mandated to employ at least one (1) physician in every Barangay Health Center within their jurisdiction.

Section 5. Recruitment, Selection, and Training. - The Local Government Unit, in coordination with the Department of Health, shall lead in the recruitment and selection of qualified physicians.

Section 6. Minimum Qualifications of Physicians. – For a physicians to be employed under this Act, he/she must be a Filipino citizen, , a resident of the city or municipality where the Barangay Health Center is situated, have passed the physician licensure examination, and must have practiced the profession for at least 3 years.

Section 7. Stipend. - Physicians employed under this Act shall be entitled to monthly stipends commensurate to their services. The monthly stipends shall be determined by the Department of Health and the Local Government Unit. These stipends shall be sourced from the funds of the local government concerned.

Section 8. *Health Status Report*. - Physicians employed under this Act shall help in the preparation of the annual health status report of barangays that evaluates and identifies issues and concerns that need to be addressed in order to help the effective delivery of government health services.

Furthermore, said status report should offer suggestions to be reviewed by the Local Government Unit for proper intervention.

Section 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations*. - Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Interior and Local Government and the Department of Health shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations, as may be necessary to ensure the effective implementation of the provisions of this Act.

Section 10. Separability Clause- If any provision or part of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall continue to be in force and in effect.

Section 11. *Repealing Clause*- Laws, decrees, executive orders and rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 12. *Effectivity*- This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,