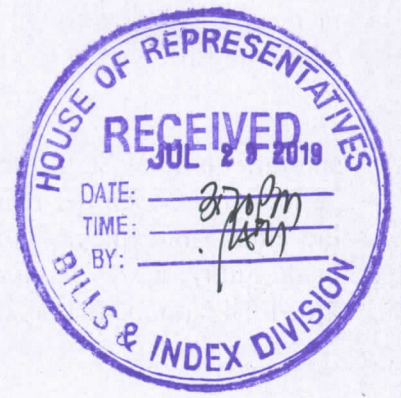




REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

Eighteenth Congress  
First Regular Session



House Bill No. 2994

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Introduced by **REPRESENTATIVE AURELIO D. GONZALES, JR.**

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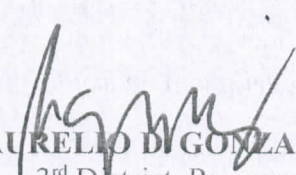
**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Republic Act No. 9173 or the Nursing Act of 2002 breathed life to the Constitution's mandate that "affirms labor as a primary social economic force," and that "the State shall protect the rights of workers and promote their welfare."

Nurses, pharmacists, speech therapists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, medical technicians and radiology technicians are considered as the backbone of healthcare delivery. Everything they do affects the outcome of care patients receive, as well as the general impression a hospital gives to the public. Republic Act No. 9173 was enacted for the recognition and improvement of the nursing profession. But after 17 years, the mandated minimum base pay of nurses working in the public health institutions has yet to see the light of the day.

Thus to ensure that the law's lofty objectives are attained, the present bill seeks to appropriate funds for the increase in salary grade of government nurses, pharmacists, speech therapists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, medical technicians and radiology technicians. This bill also provides allowances in addition to the base pay of our health care personnel. By providing them with an increased salary, we can boost morale, increase employee satisfaction, and encourage hardwork among our health care personnel.

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

  
**AURELIO D. GONZALES, JR.**  
3<sup>rd</sup> District, Pampanga





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House Bill No. 2994

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**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR AN INCREASE IN THE SALARY GRADE OF GOVERNMENT NURSES, PHARMACISTS, SPEECH THERAPISTS, OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS, PHYSICAL THERAPISTS, MEDICAL TECHNICIANS, RADIOLOGY TECHNICIANS AND OTHER HEALTH CARE PERSONNEL, GRANTING OF ALLOWANCE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION. 1. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to continuously promote and improve the social and economic well-being of government nurses and health care personnel as well as their living and working condition to help ensure, promoted and maintain the delivery of the basic health services.

SEC. 2. *Coverage.* – The provision of the Act shall apply to all nurses, pharmacists, speech therapists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, medical technicians, radiology technicians and other health care personnel employed in government hospitals. As used in this Act, “nurses” refer to graduates of a degree in Nursing and duly certified by the Professional Regulatory Commission (PRC) who are employed by the national government or a local government unit, as the case may be, either in public health institutions or in any government agency or instrumentality. In addition, “health care personnel” shall mean all persons who are engaged in health and health-related work, and all persons employed in all hospitals, sanatoria, health infirmaries, health center, rural health units, barangay health stations, clinics and other health related establishments owner and operated by the Government or its political subdivision with original charters and shall include medical, allied health professional, administration and support personnel employed regardless of their employment status.

SEC. 3. *Salary Grade Adjustment.* – The minimum base pay of nurses and pharmacists working in government shall not be lower than salary grade 15 prescribed under Republic Act No. 6758, otherwise known as the Compensation and Classification Act of 1989. While the minimum base pay of speech therapists, occupational therapists, physical therapists and medical technician, radiology technicians and other health care personnel shall not be lower than Salary Grade 13 prescribed under the Compensation and Classification Act of 1989.

SEC. 4. *Allowances.* – In addition to the base pay, nurses and pharmacists working in government shall receive at least One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (Php1,500.00) every month as allowance while speech therapists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, medical technicians,

radiology technicians and other health care personnel shall be entitled to a monthly allowance of One Thousand Pesos (Php1,000.00).

SEC. 5. *Appropriation.* – The amount necessary to implement the provision of this Act is hereby appropriated out of any funds in the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated; Provided, That the corresponding amount needed to implement this Act in subsequent years shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act for the Department of Health.

SEC. 6. *Separability Clause.* – If any clause, sentence, paragraph, or part of this Code shall be adjudged by any Court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder of said Code, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, or part thereof directly involved in the controversy.

SEC. 7. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, rules, regulations, orders, circulars, and memoranda inconsistent with any provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), shall issue the necessary guidelines to implement the same.

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

Approved,