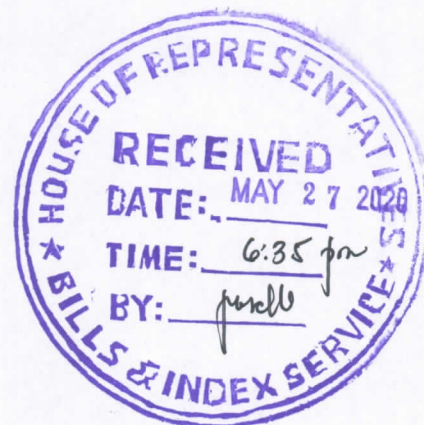Republic of the Philippine
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

6847
HOUSE BILL NO. _____

Introduced by: HON. ANTONIO "TONYPET" T. ALBANO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to provide additional benefits for our medical and health service front liners in recognition of and gratitude for all their hard work and sacrifices in providing needed medical and other health assistance services to victims of Covid 19 and in helping stem the spread of the virus in the country.

Our medical and health workers risk their lives and sacrifice their own safety in the fight against COVID-19. Many of them have died but this has not deterred other medical professionals and health workers from continuing their mission to save others who have been infected with the dreaded virus.

Currently, based on Department of Health (DOH) data, there are nearly 2000 healthcare workers who have been infected with the Covid-19 in the Philippines. Of those infected, 584 recovered and 34 died. It is estimated that 17.9% of the total coronavirus cases in the country consist of local health workers. Information from the DOH also indicate that, to date, 628 doctors, 753 nurses, 127 nursing assistants, 72 medical technologists, 39 radiologic technologists, and 158 non-medical are infected with COVID-19.

We cannot fully compensate medical professionals and health workers ,especially those who died, for the risks they take and thesacrifices they make for our people and our country, in fighting Covid 19. But, we can provide them with a package of additional benefits to help them and their families as a sincere gesture of our deep appreciation and gratitude to all of them for carrying the biggest burden of saving lives in the fight against Covid 19.

This billaims toprovide additional health benefits and insurance as well as cash grants together with other measures that are intended to liberate our medical professionals and health workers from worrying about expenses and other financial needs that may arise should they be infected with and hospitalized for Covid 19 or lose their lives in the performance of their duties.

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

ANTONIO "TONYPET" T. ALBANO

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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. ___6847___

Introduced by: HON. ANTONIO "TONYPET" T. ALBANO

AN ACT
**PROVIDING FOR ENHANCED MEDICAL COVERAGE AND BENEFITS
TO COVID-19 MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICE FRONTLINERS,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

1   **SECTION 1.** *Title.* -This Act shall be known as the "Covid-19 Medical
2 and Health Workers Benefits Act of 2020".
3
4   **SECTION 2.** *Declaration of State Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to
5 protect and promote the right to health of the peopleas well as the rights
6 and welfare of workers
7
8   The State likewise recognizes the immense contribution and
9 invaluable sacrifices of all medical professionals and health workers,
10 including allied health service providers and non-medical hospital front
11 liners in the timely and effective delivery of necessary medical services
12 needed by the people during the Covid-19 pandemic.
13
14   **SECTION 3.** *Coverage.* -This Act shall apply to all medical
15 professionals and health workers includingallied health care workers and
16 non-medical personnel in both publicand private hospitalsand relevant
17 institutions providing services needed in the fight against Covid 19who

contract or are infected by the virus and who die in the performance of their duties, regardless of their employment status.

Medicalprofessionalsand health workers include those who are in the medical profession such as Medical Doctors and Specialists, Nurses, Radiological/Medical Technologists, Laboratory technicians, and other allied health care personnel identified by the DOH. Non-medical personnel may include clerks, assistants, IT personnel, janitors and other care workers that are exposed to the hospital or relevant institutional environment.

SECTION 4. *Enhanced Medical Coverage & Benefits*–Medical professionals and health workers including allied health care workers and non-medical personnel covered in Section 3 of this Act shall be granted the following benefits:

1. The Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) shall provide One Hundred Percent (100%) medical coverage to those who contract the virus (Covid-19) or who acquire any work-related injury or disease during the Covid 19 pandemic.

2. The Social Security System (SSS) and the Government Insurance System (GSIS), as the case may be,shall give the amount of One Hundred Thousand Pesos (P100,000.00) to those who contract severe COVID-19 infection while in the performance of their duties. In case of death, their family shall receive One Million Pesos (P1,000,000.00) as death benefits within one (1) month after the death of the medical or health worker and allied services personnel concerned.

3. Those who work in government shall receive a Covid-19 Special Risk Allowance of twenty five (25%) of their salary in addition to the Hazard Pay mandated by the Magna Carta of Public Health Workers or RA 7305.

SECTION 5. *Appropriations.* - The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be appropriated in the General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 6. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, resolutions, orders or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

1   **SECTION 8.** *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act shall be
2 held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provisions
3 not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.
4
5   **SECTION 9.** *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
6 days following the completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in
7 at least two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

     Approved,