

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**  
**First Regular Session**

House bill No. 2513

<b>HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES</b>	
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**Introduced by Hon. Cristina "Chiqui" Roa-Puno**

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**Explanatory Note**

This bill seeks to provide mandatory Philhealth coverage to all persons with disabilities.

Article XIII Section III of the 1987 Philippine Constitution states that:

*The State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the underprivileged sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children. The State shall endeavor to provide free medical care to paupers.*

The passage of Republic Act 7277 as amended by Republic Act 9442 and further amended by RA 10754 or the Magna Carta for Persons with Disability ratifies the commitment of the State to guarantee and prioritize the rights of persons with disability (PWDs). The World Health Organization's World Report on Disability in 2011 states that disability prevalence is high and growing, with over one billion in the world affected. The report further states that PWDs face widespread barriers in accessing services (with health services topping this list) and that they have worse health and socioeconomic outcomes than people without disabilities. In the Philippines alone, the National Statistics Office reported in its 2010 study that there are 1,443,000 PWDs in the country or about 1.57% of the population.

Having said so, a mandatory Philhealth coverage will address the PWDs' plight in accessing health care services that they most often require.

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

  
**CRISTINA "CHIQUI" ROA-PUNO**

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**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MANDATORY PHILHEALTH COVERAGE FOR ALL PERSONS WITH DISABILITY AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE R.A. 7277 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “MAGNA CARTA FOR DISABLED PERSONS”**

Section 1. This Act shall be known as the “Mandatory Philhealth Coverage for Disabled Persons”

Sec. 2. Section 20 of Chapter III is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 20.- Health services

“XXX”

(c). Mandatory PhilHealth Coverage-

All persons with disability shall be covered by the national health insurance program of the PhilHealth. Funds necessary to ensure the enrolment of all persons with disability not currently covered by any existing category shall be sourced from the National Health Insurance Fund of PhilHealth from proceeds of R.A. 10351, in accordance with pertinent laws and regulations.

Sec.3. Repealing Clause – Section 34 (h), Article IV of Republic Act 4136 is hereby amended and, furthermore, any law, executive order, decree, issuance, ordinance, rule and regulation or any part thereof contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is also hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

Sec.4. Effectivity Clause – This Act shall take fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,