

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 3185



Introduced by

HON. YEDDA MARIE K. ROMUALDEZ
and
HON. FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to mandate the creation of a Special Local Health Fund for the improvement of local health services implemented by the local government units. While Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, has effectively devolved health services to local governments, many of these local government units were not prepared to carry out these devolved health functions. Despite the establishment of local health boards, there was no provision for the corresponding operating resources needed to provide accessible and affordable quality health services.

With the establishment of a Special Local Health Fund, each local government unit shall be afforded the funding needed to ensure a balanced and fair delivery of local health services. It shall be apart from the appropriations allotted to health services by the respective local government units and remittances by the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation to the local health institutions and shall be used exclusively for the acquisition of equipment, upgrading of facilities and services, additional allowances for health workers, training and continuing education of health workers. The local health boards are likewise mandated to manage the special local health fund.

1 In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.
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Rep. YEDDA MARIE K. ROMUALDEZ
Representative, Tingog Sinirangan


Rep. FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ
Representative, First District of Leyte'

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12 **HON. YEDDA MARIE K. ROMUALDEZ**
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16

17 **AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE SPECIAL LOCAL HEALTH FUND FOR THE**
18 **IMPROVEMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN THE LOCAL**
19 **GOVERNMENT UNITS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**
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22 *Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of the Representatives of the*
23 *Philippines in Congress assembled:*
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25 **Section 1. Short Title** - This Act shall be known as the "Special Local
26 Health Fund Act of 2019".
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28 **Section 2. Declaration of Policy.** - It is hereby declared the policy of
29 the State to guarantee that total quality health care is available to the people at
30 affordable costs by providing additional resources to local government units for
31 the health needs of their respective constituencies. It is also the policy of the
32 State to see to it that all citizens be afforded optimum health care services and
33 make the local governments accountable for the development and
34 improvement of health services in their respective localities.
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1 **Section 3. *Special Local Health Fund*** - There is hereby established a
2 Special Local Health Fund which shall be used exclusively for the following:

- 3 a) Upgrading of facilities and equipment of local hospitals, rural health
4 clinics, lying-in clinics, emergency hospitals, puericulture centers,
5 nursing homes, hospices and such other health institutions found in
6 cities and municipalities;
- 7 b) Hiring, training and continuing education of health workers,
8 caregivers, volunteer health workers and other ancillary personnel
9 employed by the local governments in their health institutions;
- 10 c) Building of new health institutions such as secondary hospitals.
11 specialty clinics or care centers in cities and municipalities;
- 12 d) Purchase of needed medicines and medical supplies at the lowest
13 costs in accordance with law; and
- 14 e) Establishment of mobile emergency lifelines or quick-response
15 medical and paramedical teams to respond to disasters,
16 emergencies and other life-threatening situations in the community.

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18 **Section 4. *Role of the Special Local Health Boards*** - In addition to
19 the functions of the Local Health Board as provided for in Section 102 (b) of
20 Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of
21 1991, the Local Health Board shall manage the local special health fund, which
22 shall be remitted to them by the agencies mentioned in Section 2 of this Act.
23 The special health fund levy shall be automatically retained by the local health
24 board as well as the proceeds from fines due to violations of health and safety
25 laws collected by the local government units.

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27 **Section 5. *Funding*** - The Special Local Health Fund shall come from
28 the following sources:

- 29 a) Proceeds from a special levy of one percentum from all sales in all
30 local public and private markets which shall be collected by the local
31 governments and allocated by the health boards;

- 1 b) Proceeds from fines collected for violations of health and safety
- 2 regulations from all establishments in cities and municipalities;
- 3 c) Five percentum of all revenues derived by the Philippine Charity
- 4 Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) from lotto which shall be divided equally
- 5 among all cities and municipalities;
- 6 d) Five percentum of the net revenues of the Philippine Amusement and
- 7 Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) which shall be allotted equally
- 8 among all cities and municipalities;
- 9 e) Grants or donations and endowments to cities and municipalities
- 10 from private and foreign individuals, as well as, local and
- 11 international, private and public associations or foundations.
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13 **Section 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations*** - The Secretary of
14 Health shall in coordination with the Secretary of Interior and Local
15 Government, issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective
16 implementation of this Act.

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18 **Section 7. *Separability Clause*** - If any part or provision of this Act is
19 held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts for provisions hereof which are not
20 affected shall continue to remain in full force and effect.

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22 **Section 8. *Repealing Clause*** - All laws, decrees, executive orders,
23 rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with or contrary to the
24 provisions of this Act are deemed amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

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26 **Section 9. *Effectivity*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
27 following completion of its publication in the Official Gazette and in at least two
28 (2) newspapers of general circulation.