

Republic of the Philippines  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Eighteenth Congress  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5054



---

Introduced by Representative Florencio Gabriel G. Noel

---

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Article II Section 15 of the 1987 Constitution provides for the basis behind the fact that health is a basic human right, *viz*:

“The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them.”

Healthcare services are generally known to be costly. In view of this common misconception, people opt to do home medication without knowing that reasonable and quality health care and service are present and available, thereby, effectively putting themselves at risk instead of getting proper treatment.

Thus, it is necessary for patients to have access to a complete and reliable list of hospital expenses, which shall include all incidental expenses for room and amenities, meals, medicines, and use of medical equipment and technology. Being equipped with said basic information, patients would be able to compare costs of available health services and freely decide whether they will obtain the hospital services or buy the necessary medical supplies that they need.

As such, being fully informed with the prices would also help the patients in estimating their medical bill when admitted to a healthcare facility. Furthermore, it would also protect patients against misleading and unfair sales acts and practices in the healthcare facility.

Through the passage of this bill, proper information dissemination on healthcare services will be readily accessible to the people, which in turn, will enable them to have a learned decision in seeking the proper health remedy.

  
FLORENCIO GABRIEL G. NOEL

Republic of the Philippines  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Eighteenth Congress  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5054

---

Introduced by Representative Florencio Gabriel G. Noel

---

AN ACT

REQUIRING HEALTHCARE FACILITIES TO PROVIDE A PRICE LIST OF ITS HEALTHCARE SERVICES INCLUDING INCIDENTAL EXPENSES AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES THAT CAN BE CHARGED IN THE MEDICAL BILL

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

SECTION 1. **Short Title.** This Act shall be known as the "*Healthcare Services Price Disclosure Act*".

SEC. 2. **Declaration of Policy.** It is the policy of the State to protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them. The State shall enforce a compulsory posting of the price list of healthcare services, including incidental expenses and medical supplies that can be charged in the medical bill, to enable the public to obtain accurate and adequate information that would facilitate and guide them in making a conscious choice of healthcare facility.

SEC. 3. **Definition of Terms.** For purposes of this Act, the term:

- (a) *Diagnostic and laboratory clinic* refer to a health facility for X-ray, CT scans, blood chemistry exams, histopathology and immunopathology, hematology, urine analysis, parasitology and bacteriology test, serology, blood banking and other diagnostic examinations that are necessary for the diagnosis and/or treatment of an illness or injury.
- (b) *Healthcare services* refer to the services for the diagnosis, treatment and other forms of healthcare of individuals suffering from deformity, disease, illness or injury, or in need of surgical, obstetrical, medical or nursing care that are offered, available and provided by the hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, diagnostic and laboratory clinics and other medical clinics.

The term healthcare services shall also include dental services to perform oral



examination, cleaning, permanent and temporary filling, extractions and gum treatments, restoration, replacement or repositioning of teeth, or alteration of the alveolar or periodontium process of the maxilla and the mandible that are necessary for the diagnosis and/or treatment of a dental illness or injury.

- (c) *Healthcare facilities* refer to hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, diagnostic and laboratory clinics, medical clinics and/or facilities which provide healthcare services, as defined under this Act, whether or not there is an operating room equipment and installed bassinets or beds for the use of patients in the management of deformities, diseases, injuries, abnormal physical and mental conditions, and maternity cases.
- (d) *Incidental expenses* refer to other services provided by the healthcare facility incidental and in connection with the healthcare services provided such as, but not limited to, charges for room and amenities, meals, drugs and medicines, and payments for use of medical equipment and technology.
- (e) *Medical bill* refers to the costs of healthcare services rendered by the healthcare facility including incidental expenses and medical supplies charged to the patient.
- (f) *Medical equipment and technology* refer to the equipment designed to aid in providing healthcare services.
- (g) *Medical supplies* refer to all healthcare materials and articles used for providing healthcare services and can be charged in the medical bill.
- (h) *Patient* refers to a person seeking admission or who is admitted and has availed of healthcare services in a healthcare facility.
- (i) *Room and amenities* refer to an occupancy room or a ward room where a patient is admitted for healthcare services, including a detailed list of its amenities.

**SEC. 4. *Price List of Healthcare Services and Incidental Expenses Including Medical Supplies Offered and Charged by a Healthcare Facility.*** Healthcare facilities shall make a price list of its healthcare services, incidental expenses and medical supplies that can be charged in the medical bill available to any patient or patient's representative, so that the patient or patient's representative may adequately exercise the option to choose a healthcare facility. The price list shall likewise be easily accessible to the general public and without need of any further inquiry by posting the price list in a conspicuous place within the premises of the healthcare facility.

All medical bills shall list and itemize all healthcare services, incidental expenses and medical supplies availed or used by the patient with their corresponding prices charged to the patient.

**SEC. 5. *Price List of Healthcare Services, Incidental Expenses and Medical Supplies Binding on Healthcare Facility.*** The price list of healthcare services, incidental expenses and

medical supplies shall be binding on the healthcare facility upon the admission of the patient. Any increase in the price of healthcare services, incidental expenses and medical supplies shall take effect only after proper posting as required in this Act: *Provided*, That the increase shall not affect patients admitted prior to posting of increase in price.

SEC. 6. **Penalties.** (a) Any person who shall violate the provisions of this Act or its implementing rules and regulations shall be subject to a fine of not less than Five thousand pesos (P5,000.00) but not more than Twenty-five thousand pesos (P25,000.00) per instance of violation without prejudice to administrative sanctions such as suspension or cancellation of license to practice profession for a period not exceeding sixty (60) days.

(b) Any juridical person which violates the provisions of this Act shall suffer the penalty of a fine of not less than Ten thousand pesos (P10,000.00) nor more than Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00) per instance of violation and suspension or revocation of license to operate such healthcare facility for a period not exceeding sixty (60) days: *Provided*, That its officers directly responsible for the violation shall suffer the penalty of a fine of not less than Five thousand pesos (P5,000.00) but not more than Twenty-five thousand pesos (P25,000.00) per instance of violation and suspension or revocation of license to practice profession for a period not exceeding sixty (60) days: *Provided, further*, that if the guilty party is an alien, he shall be *ipso facto* deported after payment of fine without need of further proceedings.

The Secretary of Health shall have the authority to impose the administrative fines and sanctions provided herein including suspension or revocation of license to operate such healthcare facility or recommend suspension of license to practice profession to the Professional Regulation Commission as the case may be for the violation of this Act.

SEC. 7. **Implementing Agency.** The Department of Health (DOH) shall enforce the provisions of this Act and its implementing rules and regulations.

SEC. 8. **Implementing Rules and Regulations.** Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOH, in coordination with the Department of the Interior and Local Government, shall issue the rules and regulations to effectively implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 9. **Separability Clause.** If any part or provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions hereof that are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 10. **Repealing Clause.** All other laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations

and administrative regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 11. *Effectivity Clause.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in any newspaper of general circulation.