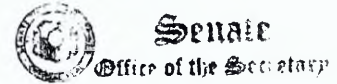


NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



'22 JUL -7 P 4 :07

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SENATE

S. No. 164

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR JOSEPH VICTOR "JV" G. EJERCITO

**AN ACT
PROVIDING HOUSING TO PUBLIC HEALTH WORKERS NEAR GOVERNMENT
HOSPITALS AND OTHER HEALTH FACILITIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

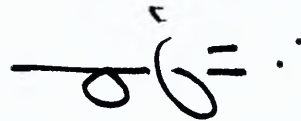
The COVID-19 pandemic exhibited the multitude of problems in the health care system of our country. In the face of these problems, our health workers stand in bravery to save the Filipinos from the dreadful virus. It is a welcome development that the government is now allocating more for the Health Systems Straightening Program, which seeks to strengthen health workforce capacity. Likewise, the government has been giving more incentives to our health workers. Recently, former President Rodrigo Duterte signed into law Republic Act 11712 or the Public Health Emergency Benefits and Allowances for Health Care Workers Act. This enables the government to provide mandatory continuing benefits to all health workers in cases of public health emergencies.

This Congress will continue to honor our public health workers for their everyday sacrifice for all Filipinos in this time of pandemic. This proposed legislation seeks to provide housing to our health workers near government hospitals and facilities, in recognition of their immeasurable service. This will help our health workers considering the difficulty of commuting to work this days, not only in Metro Manila but also in the provinces. By providing a place to stay near the hospitals and other facilities

where they are working could give them ample time to rest so that they can reserve most of their energy in attending to their patients.

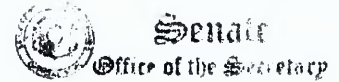
Let us learn from our experience from this pandemic. Our health workers deserves the best care and protection that this government can give.

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


A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a horizontal line followed by a stylized 'J' and 'V' with a dot, representing 'JV'.

JOSEPH VICTOR "JV" EJERCITO

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



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SENATE
Senate Bill No. 164

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

AN ACT
PROVIDING HOUSING TO PUBLIC HEALTH WORKERS NEAR GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS AND OTHER HEALTH FACILITIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the **“Health Workers**
2 **Housing Act”**.

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to instill health and
4 consciousness among our people and to ensure that the general welfare of Filipino
5 health workers is promoted through adequate compensation and benefits
6 commensurate with the services they provide. Towards this end, the State shall
7 provide decent and high quality housing at equitable terms and conditions for public
8 health workers who have dedicated their lives to government service.

9 Sec. 3. *Coverage.* – The provisions of this Act shall apply to all public health
10 workers, engaged in health and health-related work, and all persons employed in all
11 government hospitals, sanitarium, health infirmaries or health centers, regardless of
12 their employment status.

13 Sec. 4. *Health Workers Housing.* - The Department of Health (DOH), in
14 coordination with the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development
15 (DHSUD) and the National Housing Authority (NHA), is hereby mandated to develop
16 housing projects for public health workers, near government hospitals and other
17 facilities, at affordable rental charges. *Provided,* That preference will be given to those
18 health workers who are not residents of the area where the hospital or health facilities

1 is located. *Provided further,* That if there is no available land near the government
2 hospitals, the housing projects may be located in the same city or municipality of the
3 said hospital or facility

4 *Sec. 5. Private Sector Participation* – The participation of private developers in
5 the development of health workers housing will be considered as their compliance
6 under Republic Act No. 10884 or the Balanced Housing Development Program
7 Amendments.

8 *Sec. 6. Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of
9 this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA) under the
10 budget of the DOH.

11 *Sec. 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty days from the
12 effectivity of this Act, the DOH, in coordination with the DHSUD and NHA, shall
13 promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of
14 this Act.

15 *Sec. 8. Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is held invalid or
16 unconstitutional, the other provisions not so declared shall remain in force and effect.

17 *Sec. 9. Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations
18 contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or
19 amended accordingly.

20 *Sec. 10. Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
21 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

22 *Approved,*

23