

Commission on Human Rights
Human Rights Centers Management Office
Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights Center

DOCUMENTATION REPORT

Date	18 May 2021
Topic	Mandatory Philhealth Coverage for All Persons with Disability
Summary	On 22 February 2019, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte signed Republic Act 11228 (RA 11228) or “An Act Providing for the Mandatory Philhealth Coverage for All Persons with Disability” into law. RA 11228 aims to provide persons with disabilities access to healthcare. With this law, persons with disability will be automatically covered under Philhealth’s National Health Insurance Program (NHIP) and the national government will shoulder their premium contributions. Under RA 11228’s Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR), the State commits to ensure provision of programs and services in healthcare facilities with trained professional who can provide early detection and health interventions for individuals to “attain the highest level of their functional ability”. ¹

GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS, INITIATIVES, AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Philippine Health Insurance Corporation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Data Sharing Agreement between Philhealth and the DOH was signed on October 24, 2019. • Inclusion of persons with disabilities in the Philhealth Member Registration Form (PMRF). • The Philhealth board approved the IRR of RA 11228 on October 24, 2019. • IRR was published in Manila Bulletin on March 18, 2020 and Business Mirror on August 7, 2020; became effective on August 22, 2020.
National Council on Disability Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working on mirroring the data from PRPWD data from DOH so they can have a real time data for persons with disabilities
Department of Labor and Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOLE conducts inspection of formal establishments to ensure that persons with disabilities are enrolled in the social security system • DOLE gets its data on persons with disabilities through the PESO Employment Information System (PEIS), which is a datable of active manpower supply containing profiles of all persons and employers registered under the NSRP. It includes information regarding qualifications and skills of the applicant as well as job vacancies posted by employers in PESO.

¹ Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 11228, Otherwise Known as “An Act Providing for the Mandatory Philhealth Coverage for All Persons with Disability, Amending for the Purpose, Republic Act No. 7277, Otherwise Known as the Magna Carta for Persons with Disability,” 18 March 2020

ISSUES ENCOUNTERED BY THE SECTOR

<p>Issues encountered by persons with disabilities in relation to the National Health Insurance Program, As Presented by Mr. Abner Manlapaz, President, Life Haven Center for Independent Living</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unavailability of the Philippine Registry of Persons with Disabilities in their local government units • Lack of knowledge and awareness of LGU personnel in the Philhealth enrollment process • Difficulty of LGU personnel in accessing the registry resulting in failing to upload • necessary data to the registry • • Lack of knowledge and awareness about the effectivity of RA 11228 by personnel in local Philhealth offices
<p>Other issues raised by members of the sector</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of data on the number of persons with disabilities • Access to DOH Registry • LGUs located in rural areas are not able to upload data on PRPWD due to lack of internet access, weak connectivity, and accessibility of the server of the DOH • Lack of access to information and information dissemination to health and employment • Non-availability of sign language interpreters • Lack of budget for employed persons with disabilities

CHALLENGES FACED BY THE GOVERNMENT

<p>Philippine Health Insurance Corporation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No appropriation for the Employed Persons with Disabilities in GAA FY 2020 • Employed Persons with disabilities still need to pay their employee share of the Philhealth premium for this year • Identification of unemployed Persons with disabilities under the DOH-PRPWD • Accuracy of the PRPWD data matched with Philhealth database • System enhancement halted due to pandemic • Some LGUs are not uploading their PWD data • No budget allotted in GAA 2020 and 2021 for the employed persons with disabilities. Budget was only for the unemployed persons with disabilities.
<p>National Council on Disability Affairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No data system for the masterlist of persons with disabilities

RECOMMENDATIONS AND WAYS FORWARD

<p>Philippine Health Insurance Corporation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtained 2021 PRPWD data from the DOH for 2021 enrollment • Currently working on mirroring in Philhealth's real time and faster access to the PRPWD • Develop a communication plan in coordination with NCDA and DOH to streamline program implementation
--	---

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In coordination with NCDA and DOH, Philhealth is planning to conduct information education • campaigns with various entities working with the persons with disabilities • Philhealth and NCDA are coming up with a proposal for the inclusion of employed persons with disabilities in the General Appropriations Act of 2022. • Lobby to the Congress and Senate
National Council on Disability Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of accountability and responsibility, data are being collected from concerned agencies and merged in NCDA data system. NCDA information dissemination is localized through the RCDA, for smooth coordination and facilitation of services. • Establish a tripartite agreement with the federation leaders, PDAO and NCDA, gearing one direction • and strength services to the sector • Formulate means and guidelines on how to use, access the information on how to avail the services, through the use of internet
Department of Labor and Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request Bureau of Working Conditions for data on the number of establishments inspected and persons with disabilities recorded in the management information system. • Help DOLE update its system, report directly to their office any establishments which employed the sector and the same will conduct the inspection. • Craft a disability inclusive governance framework
National Anti-Poverty Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination with LGUs for more comprehensive data on persons with disabilities • For Philhealth to have a clear and proper dissemination of information, law, and policies