

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 195, August 13, 1994]

PROVIDING A MEDICAL CARE PROGRAM TO FILIPINO OVERSEAS CONTRACT WORKERS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS AND PRESCRIBING THE MECHANISM THEREFOR

WHEREAS, it is the avowed policy of the government to provide adequate medical care services to the people;

WHEREAS, under the present policy, among the private working sector, only members of the Social Security System who are employed within the Philippines are compulsorily covered by the Philippine Medical Care Program (Law);

WHEREAS, studies show that a large number of overseas contract workers and their dependents, which comprise a significant portion of the Filipino population, are not assured of any medical care, in view of the lack of a program with a compulsory coverage;

WHEREAS, Filipino Overseas Contract Workers and their dependents must likewise be assisted in their medical care expenses consistent with the policy for their counterpart local workers and their dependents;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Medical Care Commission, the Department of Labor and Employment thru the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration and the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration, the Department of Foreign Affairs, and the Social Security System have enough facilities and manpower to ensure the effective and efficient medical care coverage of the Filipino Overseas Contract Workers and their dependents under a program similar to Program I of the Philippine Medical Care Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FIDEL V. RAMOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

Section 1. Filipinos recruited for employment abroad, herein referred to as Filipino Overseas Contract Workers or members, shall be compulsorily covered by the Philippine Medical Care Program pursuant to Section 31 of P.D. 1519, as amended, otherwise known as the Philippine Medical Care Law, without having to enroll themselves as SSS members.

Sec. 2. Dependents of Filipino Overseas Contract Workers shall also be covered with Medicare benefits through the membership of the latter.

Sec. 3. The premium contributions and benefits of the Filipino Overseas Contract Workers and their dependents shall be the same as those provided for SSS members under Program I of the Philippine Medical Care Plan.

Sec. 4. The compulsory coverage shall not apply to Filipino Overseas Contract Workers with existing coverage of the Philippine Medical Care Program acquired thru