

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON CABINET SECRETARIAT ON THE HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEME FOR DISABLED PERSONS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2017

I, the Chairman of Standing Committee on Cabinet Secretariat have the honour to present this report on the Bill to provide for a health insurance scheme for disabled persons and for matters connected therewith or incidental [The Health Insurance Scheme for Disabled Persons (Amendment) Act, 2017] (Private Member's Bill), referred to the Committee on 31st Jan, 2017.

2. The Committee consists of the following:-

1)	Rana Muhammad Hayat Khan	Chairman
2)	Malik Ibrar Ahmad	Member
3)	Ch. Khalid Javaid Warraich	Member
4)	Sardar Muhammad Irfan Dogar	Member
5)	Sardar Mansab Ali Dogar	Member
6)	Ms. Parveen Masood Bhatti	Member
7)	Ms. Nighat Parveen Mir	Member
8)	Ms. Shahnaz Saleem	Member
9)	Mrs. Seema Mohiuddin Jameeli	Member
10)	Ms. Farhana Qamar	Member
11)	Mr. Rasheed Ahmed Khan	Member
12)	Rana Muhammad Qasim Noon	Member
13)	Dr. Mahreen Razzaq Bhutto	Member
14)	Pir Shafqat Hussain Shah Jilani	Member
15)	Mr. Abdul Hakeem Baloch	Member
16)	Mr. Asad Umar	Member
17)	Ms. Nafeesa Inayatullah Khan Khattak	Member
18)	Moulvi Agha Muhammad	Member
19)	Syed Ali Raza Abidi	Member
20)	Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui	Member
21)	Sheikh Aftab Ahmed , Minister Incharge for Cabinet Secretariat	Ex-officio Member

3. The Committee considered the Bill in its meeting held on 29th Nov, 2017. The Committee recommends that the Bill placed at Annexure-A may not be passed, by the Assembly.

Sd/-

(TAHIR HUSSAIN)

Secretary

Islamabad, the 13th Dec, 2017

Sd/-

(RANA MUHAMMAD HAYAT KHAN)

Chairman

Standing Committee on Cabinet Secretariat

[AS INTRODUCED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY]

A

BILL

to provide for a health insurance scheme for disabled persons and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. **Short title and commencement.**- (1) This Act may be called the Health Insurance Scheme for Disabled Persons Act, 2017.
 - (2) It shall extend to the Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT).
 - (3) It shall come into force at once.
2. **Definitions.**- In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,-
 - (a) "Government" means the Federal Government;
 - (b) "Beneficiary" means a person who has been issued health insurance card under Section 4;
 - (c) "Disabled person" means a person defined as a disabled by a medical authority and whose income from all sources is not more than ten thousand rupees per month;
 - (d) "Disability" shall have the same meaning as defined by the government;
 - (e) "Prescribed" means prescribed by rules made under this Act; and
 - (f) "Scheme" means the Health Insurance Scheme framed under this Act.
3. (1) The Government shall formulate a Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme for disabled persons.
 - (2) The Government shall pay the premium of insurance, payable by disabled persons, to the insurer for providing health services to the beneficiaries covered under the Health Insurance Scheme.
4. (1) The Government shall designate an Agency for issuing health insurance cards to disabled persons.
 - (2) The card issued under sub-section (1) shall contain such particulars of the beneficiary as may be prescribed.

5. (1) Every beneficiary shall be entitled to health facilities free of cost from such hospitals, including privately owned hospitals, as may be specified by the Government from time to time.

- (2) The free health facilities shall include:-
- (i) Consultation;
 - (ii) Out Patient Treatment;
 - (iii) Diagnostic and laboratory services;
 - (iv) Indoor treatment;
 - (v) Surgery; and
 - (vi) Medicines.

(3) No beneficiary shall be charged any amount for availing any healthcare facility mentioned in sub-section (2) by any hospital, including privately owned hospitals, specified under sub-section (1) by the Government.

6. (1) The Government shall enter into an agreement with all Nationalized Insurance Companies for implementation of the provisions of this Act.

(2) The Nationalized Insurance Companies shall enter into agreement with privately owned hospitals to provide health services to the beneficiaries covered under the Health Insurance Scheme.

(3) The Nationalized Insurance Companies shall make payment to privately owned hospitals at such rates, as may be agreed upon by both parties, for providing health services free of cost to the beneficiaries covered under Health Insurance Scheme.

7. If any beneficiary intends to surrender his health insurance card issued under section 4, he shall inform in writing to such Authority as may be designated for the purpose by the Government.

8. (1) Any Nationalized Insurance Company which has entered into an agreement with private hospital under section 6, may either itself or through an agency designated in that behalf, inspect privately owned hospitals from time to time to ensure that provisions of this Act are complied with.

(2) If any private hospital does not comply with the provisions of this Act, the hospital shall be liable to pay such compensation, as may be prescribed in the agreement under section 6.

9. The Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Persons born as disabled or becoming disabled after birth have to depend on others. Adequate healthcare facilities are not available to disabled people in our country. Disabled persons are not in a position to bear the cost of treatment in public and private hospitals. The Government also is not providing adequate healthcare facilities to the disabled person. The cost of medical treatment along with medicines is out of reach for disabled persons. Therefore, it is proposed to provide adequate healthcare facilities to all disabled persons, free of cost. Private hospitals should also be made accountable for providing healthcare facilities to all disabled persons.

2. The Bill seeks to achieve the above objectives.

Dr. Nikhat Shakeel Khan
Member-in-charge