


SENATE

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S. B. No. 3372

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INTRODUCED BY THE HONORABLE MAR ROXAS

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Constitution declared the State policy to protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them.

Health care practitioners have recognized respiratory therapy as a vital component of a highly technological medical practice and as instrumental medical practitioners in assisting medical doctors or specialists, specifically pulmonologists in the diagnosis, treatment, management, rehabilitation and preventive care of patients with cardiopulmonary problems. Specifically in the Philippines, where cardiopulmonary disorder remains a leading cause of morbidity and mortality, respiratory therapists have become of even more a demand.

In 2006, acute lower respiratory tract infection and pneumonia, the number one leading cause of morbidity in our country reached a total of 670,231 cases. Tuberculosis, another leading cause of morbidity, on the other hand, recorded a total of 132,725 cases in the same year. The prevalence of these respiratory-related diseases among the Filipinos makes the professionalism of our respiratory therapists an imperative to ensure the safe execution of respiratory care.

Presently, more than a thousand graduates of Commission on Higher Education (CHED) -recognized respiratory care programs in the country still face difficulty without a Professional Regulation Commission-instituted licensure examination. The graduates have faced further problems in employment nationally and internationally because of a lack of explicit accreditation for Filipino respiratory therapists. Moreover, in foreign countries, where the profession of respiratory therapy is recognized, Filipino practitioners are being required to produce the necessary government license or accreditation of being such a professional. Thus, while Filipino practitioners excel in the skills of the profession, they cannot practice as such without the required license or accreditation.

This bill, therefore, seeks to professionalize our respiratory therapist by mandating, among others, a licensure examination that will ensure their competency in providing quality respiratory care.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is urgently requested..



MAR ROXAS  
Senator

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Third Regular Session )

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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SENATE

S. B. No. 3372

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AN ACT  
REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF RESPIRATORY THERAPY AND  
CREATING THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR RESPIRATORY  
THERAPISTS, PROVIDING FOR ITS STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION,  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

1 ARTICLE I

2 TITLE, STATEMENT OF POLICY AND DEFINITION OF TERMS

3 SECTION 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known and cited as the “Philippine Respiratory  
4 Therapy Act of 2009.”

5 SEC 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the State policy to recognize the  
6 vital role of respiratory therapy, as a profession, and to assume responsibility for its  
7 protection and development by instituting measures that will result in relevant education,  
8 humane working condition, better career prospects and dignified, ethical and competent  
9 practice of the profession. Pursuant to this, the State shall undertake measures that will  
10 ensure the general physical well being of the people by recognizing respiratory therapy as a  
11 significant component of the healthcare system.

12 SEC 3. *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act, the following terms shall mean:

13 (a) *Respiratory Therapy* – is a health care profession whose therapists practice  
14 under the supervision of a qualified medical director and with the prescription of a

1 licensed physician, providing therapy, management, rehabilitation, respiratory  
2 assessment and care of patients with deficiencies and abnormalities, which affect the  
3 pulmonary system and associated other systems functions.

4 (b) *Respiratory Therapist* – is a person legally qualified and licensed to practice  
5 respiratory therapy under this Act.

6 (c) *Accredited Respiratory Therapy Training Center* – a respiratory therapy unit  
7 or pulmonary laboratory, office, agency, clinic, hospital or sanitarium duly approved  
8 by the Department of Health (DOH) or its authorized agency.

9 (d) *Recognized School of Respiratory Therapy* – any school, college, or university,  
10 which offers a course in Respiratory Therapy approved by the Commission on Higher  
11 Education (CHED) in accordance with the requirements under this Act, upon  
12 recommendation of the Council of Respiratory Therapy Education.

13 (e) *Council* – The Council of Respiratory Therapy Education established under  
14 this Act.

15 (f) *Board* – the Board of Examiners of Respiratory Therapy.

## 16 ARTICLE II

### 17 COUNCIL OF RESPIRATORY THERAPY EDUCATION

18 SEC 4. *Council of Respiratory Therapy Education and Its Composition.* - There is  
19 hereby created a Council of Respiratory Therapy Education, hereinafter referred to as the  
20 Council, which shall be composed of the Chairman of the Commission in Higher Education  
21 (CHED) as Chairman, the Chairman of the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) as  
22 Vice-Chairman, the Chairman and (1) one member of the Board Respiratory Therapy, the  
23 Chairman and one (1) Member of the Council of Deans and Educators of Respiratory  
24 Therapy and the President of the Professional Organization of Respiratory Therapists.

1        SEC 5. *Powers and Duties of the Council of Respiratory Therapy Education.* – The  
2 Council shall have the following powers and duties:

- 3        (a) To recommend accreditation respiratory therapy schools meeting the  
4        requirements provided under this Act and recommend closure of those found to  
5        be not compliant with the standards prescribed by law;
- 6        (b) To require all respiratory therapy schools to submit an annual report, including  
7        the total number of students and instructors, list of facilities available for  
8        instruction, a list of their recent graduates and new admissions, number and  
9        percentage of board passers on or before the month of March of the pertinent  
10       school year;
- 11       (c) To inspect, when necessary, the different respiratory therapy schools in the  
12       country in order to determine whether a high standard of education is maintained  
13       in said institutions;
- 14       (d) To inspect the different training hospitals and clinics in order to determine if it  
15       can provide all the training facilities and services for respiratory therapy interns;
- 16       (e) To provide a list of accredited respiratory therapy training centers;
- 17       (f) To certify for admission into an undergraduate internship students who have  
18       satisfactorily completed three years of the respiratory therapy course, or its  
19       equivalent
- 20       (g) Formulate and recommend approval of refresher course for applicants who shall  
21       have failed to pass the licensure exam prescribed in this Act.

22       For every meeting actually attended, the Chairman shall be entitled to a Two  
23       Thousand Pesos (Php 2,000.00) *per diem*, while the members shall be entitled to One  
24       Thousand Pesos (Php1,000.00) each. In addition, the Chairman and members of the Council

1 shall be entitled to traveling expenses incurred in connection with the performance of  
2 official duties.

### 3 ARTICLE III

#### 4 ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF RESPIRATORY THERAPY

5 SEC. 6. *Creation and Composition of the Board.* – There is hereby created a Board of  
6 Respiratory Therapy hereinafter referred to as the Board, to be composed of a Chairperson  
7 and four (4) members. The Chairperson and the members of the Board shall be appointed by  
8 the President of the republic Of the Philippines from among two (2) recommendees, per  
9 vacancy, of the Professional Regulation Commission, chosen and ranked from a list of three  
10 (3) nominees, per vacancy, of the accredited professional organization of respiratory  
11 therapists in the Philippines who possess the qualifications in this Section 7 of this Act.

12 SEC. 7. *Qualifications of Board Members.* – Except for first Board, The Chairman and  
13 the members of the Board at the time of their appointment shall have the following  
14 qualifications:

15 (a) A natural born citizen and resident of the Philippines;;

16 (b) A duly registered respiratory therapist in the Philippines with a degree of  
17 Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Therapy; with at least fifteen (15) years of  
18 professional experience or a licensed physician with a Bachelor of Science degree  
19 in Respiratory Therapy who had at least five (5) years of professional experience  
20 in respiratory department as director, supervisor or head of said laboratory or unit  
21 of a Department of Health recognized hospital; or a duly certified pulmonologist  
22 by the Philippine College of Chest Physicians/Philippine Academy of Pediatric  
23 Pulmonologists who had at least five (5) years of professional experience in  
24 respiratory therapy as director, supervisor or head of said laboratory or unit of a  
25 Department of Health recognized hospital or an academician who and at least

1           fifteen (15) years of teaching experience in a school of respiratory therapy and has  
2           at least a masteral degree in education, health education, and, or respiratory  
3           therapy with no school affiliation at least three (3) years before and after the  
4           period of appointment. *Provided*, That the majority of the members of the Board  
5           shall be holders of a master's degree in respiratory therapy;

6           (c) At least thirty-five (35) years of age if he/she is the chairperson or at least thirty  
7           (30) years old if he/she is a member;

8           (d) Of good moral character and must not have been convicted of any offense  
9           involving moral turpitude;

10          (e) Not a member of a faculty of any school, college, or university where the regular  
11          course of his profession conducts review classes;

12          (f) Must not be connected, in any capacity, with any business enterprise, firm or  
13          company engaged with or in the buying, selling or manufactures of respiratory  
14          care goods, equipment, materials or supplies;

15          (g) Not financially, interested, directly or indirectly in such schools or centers;

16          (h) Not an incumbent officer of a *bonafide* national professional organization;

17          (i) No members of the Board may accept employment or become connected with any  
18          school, college, or university conferring a Bachelor's degree in Respiratory  
19          Therapy for a period of one year after his term;

20          (j) The composition of the First Board shall be determined by the Office of the  
21          President of the Philippines, upon consultation with the Commission on Higher  
22          Education, the Department of Health and the different professional organizations.

23          **SEC. 8. *Term of Office.*** ~ The Chairperson and four (4) members of the Board shall  
24          hold for a term of three (3) years and until their successors shall have been qualified.

1 Members of the Board to be appointed after the approval of this Act shall hold office  
2 for the following terms: the Chairman for three (3) years; two (2) members for two (2) years;  
3 and two (2) members for one (1) year; *Provided further*, That any chairman or member may  
4 be re-appointed for another term of three (3) years but in no case shall serve continuously for  
5 more than six (6) years.

6 Any vacancy in the Board occurring within the term of a member shall be filled for  
7 the unexpired portion of term only. Each member shall take the proper oath of office to the  
8 performance of his or her duties.

9 **SEC. 9. *Powers and Duties of the Board*** – The Board shall supervise and regulate the  
10 practice of the nursing profession and shall have the following powers, duties and functions:

11 (a) Conduct the licensure examination for respiratory therapists;

12 (b) Issue, suspend or revoke certificates of registration for the practice of respiratory  
13 therapy;

14 (c) Monitor and enforce quality standards of respiratory practice in the Philippines  
15 and exercise the powers necessary to ensure the maintenance of efficient, ethical and  
16 technical, moral and professional standards in the practice of respiratory therapy  
17 taking into account the health needs of the nation;

18 (d) Ensure quality respiratory therapy education by examining the prescribed  
19 facilities of universities or colleges of respiratory therapy or departments of  
20 respiratory therapy education and those seeking permission to open respiratory  
21 therapy courses to ensure that standards of respiratory therapy education are properly  
22 complied with and maintained at all times. The authority to open and close colleges of  
23 respiratory therapy and/or respiratory therapy education programs shall be vested on  
24 the Commission on Higher Education upon the written recommendation of the  
25 Board;

1 (e) Conduct hearings and investigations to resolve complaints against respiratory  
2 therapy practitioners for unethical and unprofessional conduct and violations of this  
3 Act, or its rules and regulations and in connection therewith, issue *subpoena ad*  
4 *testificandum* and *subpoena duces tecum* to secure the appearance of respondents and  
5 witnesses and the production of documents and punish with contempt persons  
6 obstructing, impeding and/or otherwise interfering with the conduct of such  
7 proceedings, upon application with the court;

8 (f) Promulgate a Code of Ethics in coordination and consultation with the accredited  
9 professional organization of respiratory therapists within one (1) year from the  
10 effectivity of this Act;

11 (g) Recognize respiratory therapy specialty organizations in coordination with the  
12 accredited professional organization; and

13 (h) Prescribe, adopt issue and promulgate guidelines, regulations, measures and  
14 decisions as may be necessary for the improvements of the respiratory therapy  
15 practice, advancement of the profession and for the proper and full enforcement  
16 of this Act subject to the review and approval by the Commission.

17 (i) To exercise such other powers, function and duties as maybe necessary to carry  
18 out the provisions of this Act and to maintain an efficient, ethical, moral and  
19 professional standard in the practice of respiratory therapy in the Philippines.

20 **Section 10. *Annual Report.*** - The Board shall at the close of its calendar year submit  
21 an annual report to the President of the Philippines through the Commission giving a  
22 detailed account of its proceedings and the accomplishments during the year and making  
23 recommendations for the adoption of measures that will upgrade and improve the conditions  
24 affecting the practice of the respiratory therapy profession.



1        SEC. 11. *Removal of the Board of Members.* – Any member of the Board may be  
2 removed by the President of the Philippines for neglect of duty, incompetence, malpractice,  
3 or unprofessional, unethical immoral or dishonorable conduct after having been given  
4 opportunity to defend himself in a proper administrative investigation: *Provided, That*  
5 pending the final disposition of the case against him, a member maybe suspended by the  
6 President and another shall be appointed to fill the temporary vacancy in the Board.

7        SEC. 12. *Executive Officer and Secretary of the Board.* – The Commissioner of the  
8 Professional Regulations Commission shall be the Executive Officer of the Board and shall  
9 conduct the examination given by the Board. The Secretary of the Board of Examiners shall  
10 also be the secretary of the Board of Respiratory Therapy. All records of the Board, including  
11 examination papers, minutes of deliberation and records of administrative proceedings and  
12 investigations shall be kept be the Professional Regulations Commission.

13        SEC. 13. *Compensation of the Board.* – The Chairman and each member of the Board  
14 regardless of other employment, shall receive a compensation an amount equal, based on the  
15 current governing law to that given the chairman and members of the government board  
16 situated under analogous circumstances as maybe allowed by law.

17        SEC. 14. *Quorum in Board Meeting.* – The attendance of three (3) members shall  
18 constitute a quorum of the Board to officially transact business to be presided by the  
19 Chairman. *Provided, That* in the absence of the Chairman, the Board shall designate a  
20 presiding officer to conduct the meeting.

21        SEC. 15. *Votes Required in Administrative Cases* – To render a decision in an  
22 administrative case for unethical practice, malpractice, immorality, dishonesty, and related  
23 charges affecting the professional fitness and integrity of a respiratory therapist, the vote four  
24 (4) members must be obtained: *Provided, That* in case members are disqualified to vote by  
25 reason of conflict of interest or relation to any of the parties, or involuntarily inhibit

themselves from participating in the proceedings, the Board may designate professional respiratory therapists who are respected in their professional community for their probity and integrity, to sit in the Board, participate in the proceedings and vote on the case.

SEC. 16. *Oath.* – The Chairman and the members of the Board shall take their oath of office before entering into the performance of their duties.

## ARTICLE IV

## EXAMINATION, REGISTRATION AND LICENSURE

SEC. 17. *Licensure Examination.* - All applicants for license to practice respiratory therapy shall be required to pass a written examination, which shall be given by the Board in such places and dates as may be designated by the Commission: *Provided*, That it shall be in accordance with Republic Act No. 8981, otherwise known as the "PRC Modernization Act of 2000."

SEC 18. *Qualifications and Requirements of Applicants.* – In order to be admitted to the examination for respiratory therapy, an applicant must, at the time of filing his/her application, establish to the satisfaction of the Board that:

(a) A citizen of the Philippines or if he is a foreigner must prove that the country of which he is subject or citizen permits Filipino Respiratory Therapist to practice territorial jurisdiction, and provided further that the requirements for admission of Respiratory Therapist in such country are substantially the same as provided by this Act;

(b) Of good moral character with at least two letters of recommendation either from school, dean, previous professors or clinical instructors;

(c) He/she is a holder of a Bachelor's Degree in Respiratory Therapy from a college or university that complies with the standards of respiratory education duly recognized by the proper government agency;

1 (d) He has completed at least ten (10) months of internship equivalent to a minimum  
2 of one thousand five hundred (1,500) clinical hours under the supervision of a  
3 competent, duly qualified and registered respiratory therapist.

4 SEC 19. *Scope of Examination.* – The examination for the practice of respiratory  
5 therapy in the Philippines shall consist of written examination. The Board, taking into  
6 consideration the teaching plan and curricula of the schools, shall determine the scope of the  
7 examination. It shall be the duty of the Board to prepare the schedule of the subjects of the  
8 examination and shall submit the same to the President of the Philippines for the approval  
9 through the commissioner of the Professional Regulation Commission, the general circular at  
10 least two months before the date of the examination wherein such subjects are to be used.  
11 Any amendments that may be made in the schedule of subjects shall be approved by the  
12 Commission.

13	Subjects	Relative Weight
14	I. BASIC SCIENCES	
15	A. Anatomy, Physiology, Neuroanatomy	15%
16	B. Microbiology, Pharmacology	5%
17	C. Patient Assessment & Electrocardiography	10%
18	D. Cardiopulmonary Pathology	10%
19		
20	II. CLINICAL SCIENCES	
21	A. Neonatal & Pediatric Respiratory Therapy	10%
22	B. Fundamentals of Respiratory Therapy	10%
23	C. Arterial Blood Gas Study	15%
24	and Pulmonary Function Test	
25	D. Assisted Mechanical Ventilation	10%

E. Airway Management, Pulmonary Rehab 15%  
and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

SEC 20. *Examination and Registration Fees.* – Applications for examination for the profession of respiratory therapy shall be filed with the Professional Regulatory Commission subject to the payment of fees prescribed by the Commission. The annual registration fee shall be paid on or before the last day of the applicant's birth month every three years; otherwise the penalty fee of twenty percent for each year lapsed shall be charged.

SEC 21. *Licensure* - Exemptions from Taking the Licensing Examination (Grandfather's Clause). – Examination shall not be required of the following:

(a) Non-Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Therapy practicing as respiratory therapist within continuous period of fifteen (15) years before commencement of Respiratory Therapy Bill;

(b) Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Therapy graduates practicing as respiratory therapist with at least ten (10) years of experience as a clinical staff or supervisor in the pulmonary laboratory;

(c) Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Therapy graduates with at least eight (8) years of experience in the academe, teaching in school, college or university wherein the Respiratory Therapy as a course is being offered.

*Provided,* That all respiratory therapy practitioners including those non-Bachelors of Science in Respiratory Therapy graduates may take the first Board Examination: *Provided,* *however,* That succeeding Respiratory Therapy board examination takers should be a graduate of Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Therapy.

SEC 22. *Rating in the Examination.* – In order to pass the examinations, a candidate must obtain a general average of at least seventy-five percent (75%). In order to pass the second examination, the examinee must obtain general rating of at least seventy-five percent

1 (75%). If he/she fails the third examinations, the applicants shall be required to undertake a  
2 prescribed course before he/she will be allowed to take the board examination.

3 SEC 23. *Report of the Results of the Examination.* – The examinations shall report the  
4 ratings obtained by each candidate to the Professional Regulatory Commission within thirty  
5 (30) days after the last day of the examination or within the period prescribed by the  
6 Commission.

## 7 ARTICLE V

### 8 SCOPE OF PRACTICE OF RESPIRATORY THERAPY

9 SEC. 24. *The Practice of Respiratory Therapy.* – The practice of respiratory therapy  
10 covers –

11 (a) The therapeutic use of medical gases including oxygen and various oxygen therapy  
12 modalities, except anesthetics administrations, environmental control system that  
13 includes infant incubator, hyperbaric chamber etc., humidity therapy and its  
14 modalities, aerosol therapy and its modalities, ventilatory support systems, its  
15 monitors and breathing circuits, hype inflation therapy which includes  
16 intermittent positive pressure breathing exercises, bronchopulmonary drainage  
17 procedures, pulmonary rehabilitation, cardiopulmonary resuscitation and airway  
18 management;

19 (b) Employment of specific testing techniques to assist in diagnosis, monitoring,  
20 treatment and research. This shall be understood to include measurement of  
21 ventilatory volumes, pressures, flows, blood gases analysis, and other related  
22 physiologic monitoring.

23 SEC. 25. *Acts Constituting the Practice of Respiratory Therapy.* – The following are  
24 acts constituting practice of respiratory therapy:

- (a) Perform and interpret tests obtained from physiological specimens such as arterial blood gas and assist in different diagnosis determine the degree of impairment of relevant aspects such as cardiopulmonary efficiency;
- (b) Plan and implement treatment programs under the supervision of a Physician on the basis of test finding within the scope of respiratory therapy;
- (c) Perform pulmonary muscle strength evaluation and qualifications;
- (d) Perform lung volumes and capacities measurements, gas distribution and gas maneuvers;
- (e) Offer various respiratory therapy modalities such as humidity, aerosol and oxygen therapy, hyperinflation techniques including intermittent positive pressure breathing incentive spirometry, breathing and coughing techniques, environmental therapy including oxygen croup tents, infant incubators and warmers, hyperbaric chambers;
- (f) Perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation and provide an artificial airways;
- (g) Administer assisted mechanical ventilatory support;
- (h) Obtain sputum for analysis;
- (i) Administer pharmacologic agents related to respiratory care procedures;
- (j) Offer bronchopulmonary hygiene such as postural drainage, chest clapping and vibration;
- (k) Evaluate and offer breathing and coughing exercises to improve cardiopulmonary status, related and limited to respiratory care; and
- (l) Participate in the pulmonary rehabilitation by educating patients and their families and provide the different respiratory modalities and techniques on home health care under the supervision of a physician;

1 ARTICLE VI

2 REGULATION OF THE PRACTICE OF RESPIRATORY THERAPY

3 SEC. 26. *Prohibition Against Unauthorized Practice of Respiratory Therapy* – No  
4 person shall practice respiratory therapy as defined in Section 3 hereof, nor any of the Acts  
5 constituting the practice of respiratory therapy as set forth in this Act, without having been  
6 first admitted to the practice of this profession in accordance with this Act and its rules and  
7 regulations.

8 SEC. 27. *Special Permit of Practice*. – The Board may grant special permit to practice  
9 respiratory therapy for such a period of time under such condition as the Board may fix to a  
10 foreign registered respiratory therapist requested for consultation or for a specific purpose  
11 which, in the judgment of the Board, is essential to the development of the country:  
12 *Provided*, That this practice shall be limited only for the specific task that he is being  
13 engaged: *Provided, further*, That there is no Filipino registered Respiratory Therapist  
14 qualified for such consultation or purpose.

15 SEC. 28. *Issuance of Certification*. – Certificate of registration as a respiratory  
16 therapist shall be issued to any applicant who passes the respective examination and payment  
17 of the required fees. Every certificate of registration shall show the full name of the  
18 registrant, have serial number, and bear the signatures of the members of the Board attested  
19 by the Secretary of the Board of Examiners for Respiratory Therapy.

20 Issuance of certificate of registration by the Board to the registrant shall evidence that  
21 the person named there in entitled to all the rights and privileges of registered respiratory  
22 therapist, until the said certificate for just causes is revoked temporarily or canceled.

23 SEC. 29. *Issuance and Renewal of Professional Identification Card*. – Every registered  
24 respiratory therapist shall be issued a professional identification card, it shall be valid and

1 renewed every three (3) years, on or before their birth date after the payment of required  
2 fees.

3       **SEC. 30. *Use of Professional Initials.*** – The initial “RTRP” which stands for  
4 Respiratory Therapist Registered, Philippines may be added after the name of the respiratory  
5 therapist who successfully passes the examination given by the Board.

6       **SEC. 31. *Refusal to Issue a Certificate of Registration.*** – The Board of Examiners for  
7 Respiratory Therapist shall not issue a certificate of registration to any person convicted of  
8 any criminal offense involving moral turpitude by a court of competent jurisdiction, and to  
9 any person guilty of illegal practice, unethical advertising or other immoral or dishonorable  
10 conduct. The Board shall give the applicant a written statement of the reason/s of each  
11 action, which statements shall be incorporated in the record of the Board.

12       **SEC. 32. *Revocation and Suspension of a Certificate of Registration.*** – The Board shall  
13 have the power to, upon proper notice and hearing to revoke and suspend the validity of a  
14 certificate of a registration of a respiratory therapist because of any of reasons mentioned in  
15 the preceding section, or for un-professional or unethical, conduct, malpractice or serious  
16 ignorance or negligence in the practice of respiratory therapy for using of fraudulent,  
17 deceitful or false statements to obtain certificate of registration.

18       A certificate of registration is automatically revoked for non-renewal of license and  
19 non-payment of required fees 60 days after their birth date. The commission may reinstate  
20 the certificate of registration only upon registration and payment of fees in arrears and the  
21 fee prescribed for registration without examination. The commission may require a  
22 qualifying examination before reinstatement.

23       A respiratory therapist may be exempted from the payment of the required fees upon  
24 application for retirement from the practice of respiratory therapy.



SEC. 33. *Employment of Respiratory Therapist in Pulmonary Units and Laboratories.*

– Persons, corporations, partnership, similar establishment providing services in relation to respiratory –related illnesses or condition shall be required to employ and station respiratory therapists to ensure that the services they offer comply with professional standards.

## ARTICLE VII

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 34. *Funding Provision.* – The Chairman of the Professional Regulation Commission shall immediately include in the Commission's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 35. *Implementing Rules and Regulations* – The Board may, subject to the approval of the President of the Philippines promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out provisions of this Act.

SEC. 36. *Separability Clause.* — If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is declared invalid, such declaration shall not affect the other provisions of this Act.

SEC. 37. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, issuances, rules or regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby deemed repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 38. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,