

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

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SENATE

S. B. No. 81

Introduced by Senator LUISA "LOI" P. EJERCITO ESTRADA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is observed that there is a deficiency in the dissemination of the information regarding reproductive health care information to both men and women. The spouses are not conscious of the health care precautions that should be taken during pregnancy. This may be the reason why the percentage of abdominal or handicapped babies is constantly increasing.

The Constitution, Article II, Section 15 provides that "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them", and that under the Constitution, Article II, Section 12, the State is mandated to equally protect the life of the mother and the life of the unborn from conception. Towards this end, the following bill seeks to eradicate whatever barriers may exist that hamper access of the people to relevant and reliable reproductive health care information, including those pertaining to family planning adoption services.

In view hereof, the early passage of this bill is earnestly requested.


LUISA "LOI" P. EJERCITO ESTRADA
Senator

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Introduced by Senator LUISA "LOP" P. EJERCITO ESTRADA

**AN ACT
TO PROTECT THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE TO INFORMATION ABOUT
REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE SERVICES**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act may be cited as the "Right to Reproductive Health Care Information Act".

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is declared policy of the State to protect and promote the right to health of the people. Towards this end, the State shall provide relevant and reliable reproductive health care information to all.

SECTION 3. *Definition of Terms.* - As used in this Act - -

(1) 'governmental authority' means any authorized official of any branch, instrumentality, agency of the National Government or any local government unit.

SECTION 4. *Republic Health Care Information.* - Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no governmental authority shall in or through any program or activity administered or assisted by such authority that provides health care services or information, limit the right of any person to provide, or the right of any person to receive, non-fraudulent information about the availability of reproductive health care services, including family planning, prenatal care and adoption services.

SECTION 5. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision, or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 6. *Repealing Clause.* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to, or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SECTION 7. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,