

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

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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SENATE
S.B. No. **3535**

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A defibrillator is a device used in the treatment of life-threatening disturbances of the rhythm of the heart beat which may occur as the result of a heart attack or a variety of serious injuries or illnesses. Its effect is to reset the electrical activity of the heart in the hope that the natural pacemaker cells can then regain control of the rhythm. This bill requires each public use airport to supply and maintain an automated external defibrillator on-site in each airport building open to the public. The airport is required to maintain the defibrillator in an accessible location within the building and ensure its availability during the normal operating hours of the airport, or at any other time when the airport facilities may be open to the general public.

The airport must ensure that the defibrillator is tested and maintained, and is required to provide notification to the appropriate first aid, ambulance or rescue squad or other appropriate emergency medical services provider of the type and location of the defibrillators. The bill also requires an administrator responsible for the airport to ensure the presence of a staff person who is certified in the operation and use of an automated external defibrillator whenever the airport is open to the general public. This will ensure that passengers or employees who are victims of heart attacks while they are in the airport will be given adequate first aid care.


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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1 AN ACT
2 REQUIRING THE PLACEMENT OF DEFIBRILLATORS IN
3 PUBLIC USE AIRPORTS

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

4 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be referred to as the “Defibrillators in
5 Airports Act of 2009.”

6 SECTION 2. *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act, the following terms shall
7 mean:

8 (a) “Defibrillator” refers to an electrical device used to counteract fibrillation of the
9 heart muscle and restore normal heartbeat by applying a brief electric shock;

10 (b) “Airport” means any area of land or water, or both designed and set aside for the
11 landing and taking-off of fixed wing aircraft, utilized or to be utilized by the
12 public for such purposes, publicly or privately owned, and licensed as a public use
13 airport or landing strip. This definition excludes any facility which is owned and
14 operated by the military.

15 SECTION 3. *Requirements for airports.* – The following requirements shall be
16 followed in all airports:

17 (a) Each public use airport shall supply and maintain an automated external
18 defibrillator as defined in this Act, on-site in each airport building open to the public.
19 The defibrillator shall be maintained in an accessible location within the building and
20 shall be made available during the normal operations of the airport, and any other time

1 when the airport facilities may be open to the general public. The airport shall ensure
2 that the defibrillator is tested and maintained and shall provide notification to the
3 appropriate first aid, ambulance or rescue squad or other appropriate emergency medical
4 services provider of the type and location of the defibrillators;

5 (b) Each public use airport shall arrange for the training in cardio-pulmonary
6 resuscitation and the use of a defibrillator for airport security officers, emergency medical
7 personnel, and any other staff members designated by the airport.

8 (c) The administrator responsible for each public use airport shall ensure the
9 presence of a staff person who is certified in the operation and use of an automated
10 external defibrillator whenever the airport is open for operation to the general public.

11 SECTION 4. *Separability Clause.* – If any part or provision of this Act is held
12 invalid or unconstitutional, the other parts or provisions of this Act shall remain valid and
13 effective.

14 SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, proclamations, rules
15 and regulations or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby
16 repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

17 SECTION 6. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
18 from its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,