

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



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

'13 OCT -2 AM 10:40

SENATE  
S. No. 1767

RECEIVED BY: *ji*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 2, Section 15, provides:

The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them.

Each year, thousands of poisonings are reported by the Department of Health. More than eighty-five percent (85%) of these poisonings happen in the home, while majority of poisoning victims are children younger than six (6) years of age.

These poisonings would have been prevented if people have access to emergency medical services and efficient health care services. Unfortunately, the public cannot afford the high cost of medical and health care services, which private entities provide.

Hence, this bill seeks to provide assistance for poison prevention and to establish government-funded pollution control centers that will produce life-saving and cost-effective public health services.\*

*Miriam Defensor Santiago*  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
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\* This bill was originally filed during the Thirteenth Congress, First Regular Session.



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13 OCT -2 AM 11:40

SENATE  
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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

1 AN ACT  
2 TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR POISON PREVENTION  
3 AND TO ESTABLISH POISON CONTROL CENTERS

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

4 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be cited as the “Poison Control Center  
5 Enhancement and Awareness Act.”

6 SECTION 2. *Establishment of Nationwide Media Campaign.* –

7 (A) *In General.* – The Secretary of Health shall establish a national media campaign  
8 to educate the public and health care providers about poison prevention and the availability of  
9 poison control resources in local communities.

10 (B) *Contract with Entity.* – The Secretary may carry out paragraph (A) by entering  
11 into contracts with one (1) or more nationally recognized media firms for the development and  
12 distribution of monthly television, radio, and newspaper public service announcements.

13 SECTION 3. *Establishment of Poison Control Centers.* –

14 (A) *Regional Poison Control Centers.* – The Secretary shall establish regional poison  
15 control centers for the purpose of providing the public with access to poisoning prevention and  
16 treatment. The regional poison control centers shall be attached centers of the regional offices of  
17 the Department of Health.

18 (B) *Programs.* – The Secretary, through the established regional poison control  
19 centers, shall –

- 1 (1) Develop standard patient management protocols for commonly encountered  
2 toxic exposures;
- 3 (2) Improve and expand the poison control data collection system;
- 4 (3) Improve national toxic exposure surveillance; and
- 5 (4) Develop physician/medical toxicologist supervision of poison control centers.

6 SECTION 4. *Funding.* – There is authorized such sums as may be necessary to carry out  
7 the provisions of this Act.

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

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

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

Approved,