

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

'13 OCT -3 P5:20

SENATE
S. No. 1778

RECEIVED BY: *ja*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 13, Section 11 states:

The State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the under-privileged, sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children. The State shall endeavor to provide free medical care to paupers.

Lead is a neurotoxin that is particularly hazardous to young children, causing permanent neurological damage. Exposures to even very low levels of lead can cause brain function impairment. No level of lead exposure has been found to be safe for a developing child.

The high levels of lead result from a number of factors, including lead in soil in which ingredients are grown as well as other lead contamination during the transport, grinding and candy-making process. This bill will ensure that lead levels are monitored so that our children will not be exposed to this hazardous toxin.*

ack.
Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

* This bill was originally filed in the 14th Congress.



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1 AN ACT
2 TO KEEP LEAD WITHIN MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE LEVELS IN CANDY

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

3 SECTION 1. *Maximum Allowable Lead Level.* – For the purposes of this Act, the
4 “Maximum Allowable Lead Level” shall mean one-tenth part of lead per million parts.

5 SECTION 2. *Lead in Candy.* — The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) shall
6 monitor all candy sold or distributed in the country. Monitoring shall include sampling and
7 testing to determine the lead levels contained in the candy.

8 SECTION 3. *Excess Lead.* – If the lead level in candy that is tested by the DTI exceeds
9 the maximum allowable level, the Department shall:

10 (A) Issue health advisory notices alerting them of the danger posed by consumption of
11 such candy exceeding the maximum allowable lead level; and

12 (B) Notify the manufacturer and the distributor that such candy exceeds the maximum
13 allowable lead level, and that such candy shall not be sold or distributed until further testing
14 proves that the candy is in compliance with the maximum allowable lead level.

15 SECTION 4. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared to be
16 unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby
17 shall continue to be in full force and effect.

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

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

Approved,