THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

'04 JUN 30 P9:49

SENATE

s. No. 671

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INTRODUCED BY HON. MANUEL B. VILLAR, JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

For the past years, we have witnessed the plight of civilians who are caught in encounters between the military and communist/ insurgents/military rebels. It is thus only proper for the government to provide adequate assistance to the innocent individuals who are unfortunately injured in the cross-fire or police drag net.

At present, there is no law which provides any form of aid to innocent civilians. Hence, the immediate approval of this bill is urgently sought.

MANUÉL B. VILLAR, JR.

SENATE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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S. No. <u>671</u>

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INTRODUCED BY HON. MANUEL B. VILLAR, JR.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR FREE MEDICINE AND OTHER BASIC MEDICAL SUPPLIES TO ANY PRIVATE PERSON OR INDIVIDUAL INJURED OR WOUNDED DURING A MILITARY OR GOVERNMENT OPERATION

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

SECTION 1. Free Medicine and Medical Supplies. – Any private person or individual who shall have been wounded, or, in any way injured during or on the occasion of a military operation or activity or any government operation, shall be entitled to free medicine or other medical supplies necessary for the treatment of the injury or wound at any government or government-owned or controlled hospital or clinic: Provided, the total cost of such medicine or medical supplies shall not exceed Three Thousand Pesos (P 3,000.00) for each individual.

SECTION 2. Definition. - When used in this Act, the following terms shall mean:

- a. Private person or individual Any citizen of the Republic of the Philippines except those enlisted under military service;
- b. Wound Any open flesh bodily damage caused by a cut, blow, or other impact;
- c. Injury Any other damage to the body whether internal or external, including, but not limited to, fractures, sprains, concussions, bruises and other bodily injuries;
- d. Medicine Any drug or medication as approved and licensed by the Bureau of Food and Drugs for sale and distribution in the country;
- e. Medical Supplies Any supply, such as bandages, sutures and other similar items deemed necessary for medical treatment;
- f. Military or government operations or activity Any activity or operation, of whatever nature or for whatever purpose, undertaken by the Armed Forces of the Philippines, or any of its branches, the Philippines National Police, or any other military or para-military service, such as saturation drives and similar operations.

SECTION 3. Coordination – The Secretary of National Defense, the Secretary of Health, the Secretary of Social Welfare and Development, in consultation with the Administrators of the different government hospitals and clinics shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 4. Financing. – The medicine and medical supplies granted by this Act shall be paid for out of the savings of the different departments of the government mentioned in the preceding Section.

SECTION 5. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,