

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

'14 FEB 10 P1 56

SENATE
S. No. 2113

RECEIVED BY: *ji*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

AN ACT
TO PROVIDE FOR A NATIONAL PEDIATRIC RESEARCH NETWORK

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.

Research is an essential part of our fight to eradicate the diseases suffered by our countrymen. It is a continuing effort as advances in knowledge lead us to discover new afflictions as well as treatments. In order to ensure that our country is not left behind in terms of knowledge and capability to deal with diseases, we must make sure that our support for research is reflected not only in our policies but also in our legislation.

This bill mandates the University of the Philippines National Institutes of Health, as the primary health research arm of the government, to establish a Pediatric Research Network by providing grants in support of research consortia and making sure that all activities are coordinated and that all the findings are accessible to our health care services.

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO



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

1 AN ACT

2 TO PROVIDE FOR A NATIONAL PEDIATRIC RESEARCH NETWORK

3 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act may be cited as the “National Pediatric
4 Research Network Act.”

5 SECTION 2. . *Establishment of National Pediatric Research Network.* – The
6 University of the Philippines National Institutes of Health (UP-NIH) shall establish
7 a National Pediatric Research Network (Network) consisting of pediatric research
8 consortia receiving grants under this Act.

9 SECTION 3. *Grant to Pediatric Research Consortia.* – UP-NIH, through its
10 Director, may award funding through grants, contracts or other mechanisms to no
11 more than twenty (20) public profit and non-profit entities:

- 12 1. for planning, establishing, or strengthening pediatric research consortia;
- 13 and
- 14 2. for providing basic operating support for such consortia, including with
- 15 respect to—

- 1 a. basic, clinical, behavioral, or translational research to meet unmet
- 2 needs for pediatric research; and
- 3 b. training researchers in pediatric research techniques in order to
- 4 address unmet pediatric research needs.

5 SECTION 4. *Increasing the Effectiveness of the Grant.* – UP-NIH shall
6 ensure that no consortium shall receive any grant for research done or currently
7 being done by another consortium.

8 SECTION 5. *Organization of Consortium.* – Each consortium receiving an
9 award under this Act shall:

- 10 1. be formed from a collaboration of cooperating institutions;
- 11 2. be coordinated by a lead institution;
- 12 3. agree to disseminate scientific findings, including from clinical trials,
- 13 rapidly and efficiently; and
- 14 4. meet such reasonable requirements as may be prescribed by UP-NIH.

15 SECTION 6. *Coordination of Consortia Activities.* – UP-NIH shall
16 coordinate the activities of all consortia and ensure that all consortia provide a
17 periodic report of its activities. UP-NIH shall establish a Data Coordinating Center
18 which shall receive and direct all reports and communications of the consortia
19 within the network.

20 SECTION 4. *Report.* – Within two (2) years from the effectivity of this Act,
21 UP-NIH shall submit a report of the findings of the Pediatric Research Network to
22 the DOH and the appropriate committees in Senate and the House of
23 Representatives.

1 SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
2 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation
3 contrary to or is inconsistent with the provision of this Act is hereby repealed,
4 modified, or amended accordingly.

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

7 Approved,