

24 AUG -5 19:07

SENATE
S. B. **2343**

RECEIVED

Introduced by Senator Poe

AN ACT
TO ASSIST PERSONS WITH HEMOPHILIA AND OTHER BLEEDING DISORDERS,
ESTABLISHING FOR THE PURPOSE FOUR (4) TREATMENT CENTERS IN METRO
MANILA, LUZON, VISAYAS AND MINDANAO, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREOF,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Hemophilia is a lifelong and chronic bleeding disorder that prevents blood from clotting properly. A person suffering from Hemophilia experiences internal bleeding which causes extreme pain and stiffness and if not treated immediately and properly, said person may be bedridden in just a couple of weeks. The bleeding commonly takes place in the joints and muscles, but any body part may be affected.

It is estimated that 1 out of 10,000 persons are born with it. Other related bleeding disorders have different prevalence rates. There are therefore at least 10,000 Filipinos who are suffering from Hemophilia and other bleeding disorders, suffering from genetic, mental, psychological and physical disabilities.

With proper treatment and care, persons with Hemophilia and other bleeding disorders need not suffer as much. They may live an almost normal life and can become productive and meaningful contributors to society. Factor replacement technology and the intravenous infusion with factor concentrates are the most effective method with the least risk of blood contamination and complications, but entail huge expenses for the common Filipino.

The early detection of Hemophilia and other bleeding disorders is difficult because one inflicted with these diseases does not manifest any symptom and its external and/or physical manifestations may only show up in advanced or later stages of said diseases, a stage that requires more expensive treatment. Thus, an accurate statistics regarding persons with Hemophilia and other bleeding disorders cannot be easily had.

In view of the foregoing, this Bill seeks to establish treatment centers for the early detection of Hemophilia and other bleeding disorders and the treatment thereof, as well as a continuing study and research regarding other possible effective manners of treating, detecting and approaching Hemophilia and other bleeding disorders, among others.

For this reason, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


GRACE POE

14 AUG -5 A9:07

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AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **SECTION 1.** *Establishment of treatment centers for persons with Hemophilia and other*
2 *bleeding disorders.* There shall be four (4) treatment centers to be established for persons with
3 Hemophilia and other bleeding disorders – one in the Philippine General Hospital (PGH) for
4 Metro Manila, one each in a public- or state-owned hospital in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

5 **SECTION 2.** *Establishment of a small council to implement the provisions of this Act.* A
6 small council shall be established to implement the provisions of this Act. Said small council
7 shall be composed of the following: (a) a representative from the Department of Health (DOH)
8 to be designated by, and shall be acting as the representative of, the Secretary of DOH; (b) one
9 medical practitioner or a representative from the academe specializing in Hemophilia and other
10 bleeding disorders; and (c) one representative from an organization of patients or persons
11 suffering from Hemophilia and other bleeding disorders.

12 **SECTION 3.** *Appropriation.* The amount of One Hundred Million Pesos
13 (Php100,000,000.00) shall be initially appropriated for the implementation of the provisions of
14 this Act.

15 **SECTION 4.** *Continuing studies and researches.* The small council shall cause
16 continuing studies and researches for various treatments, detection, approaches to deal with
17 Hemophilia and other bleeding disorders.

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

20 Approved.