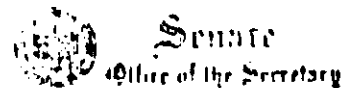


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)



16 JAN 11 P3 50

SENATE
S. No. 3054

RECEIVED BY: *J.*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE REDUCTION OF ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY, HIV
RATES, AND OTHER SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Scientific reports by the United States Institute of Medicine, the American Medical Association and the Office on National AIDS Policy stress the need for sexuality education that includes messages about abstinence and provides young people with information about contraception for the prevention of teen pregnancy, HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases or "STDs".

Research shows that teenagers who receive sexuality education that includes discussion of contraception are more likely than those who receive abstinence-only messages to delay sexual activity and to use contraceptives when they do become sexually active.

Comprehensive sexuality education programs respect the diversity of values and beliefs represented in the community and will complement and augment the sexuality education children receive from their families.

Filipino teens need access to full, complete, and medically and factually accurate information regarding sexuality, including contraception, STD/HIV prevention, and abstinence.¹

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
7P

¹ This bill was originally filed during the Thirteenth Congress, First Regular Session and refiled during the Fifteenth Congress, First Regular Session.

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

1 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Family Life Education
2 Act.”

3 SECTION 2. *Definition of Terms.* – For purposes of this Act, the term:

4 (A) “Eligible city or municipality” means a city or municipality that submits to the
5 Secretary an application for a grant under section 3 that is in such form, is made in such
6 manner, and contains such agreements, assurances, and information as the Secretary
7 determines to be necessary to carry out this Act.

8 (B) “HIV/AIDS” means the human immunodeficiency virus, and includes
9 acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

10 (C) “Medically accurate”, with respect to information, means information that is
11 supported by research, recognized as accurate and objective by leading medical,
12 psychological, psychiatric, and public health organizations and agencies, and where
13 relevant, published in peer review journals.

14 (D) “Secretary” means the Secretary of Health.

15 SECTION 3. *Assistance to Reduce Teen Pregnancy, HIV/AIDS, and other*
16 *Sexually Transmitted Diseases and to Support Healthy Adolescent Development.* –

1 **(A) *In General.*** – Each eligible municipality or city shall be entitled to receive
2 from the Secretary of Health, for each of the five fiscal years following the passage of
3 this Act, a grant to conduct programs of family life education, including education on
4 both abstinence and contraception for the prevention of teenage pregnancy and sexually
5 transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS.

6 **(B) *Requirements for Family Life Programs.*** – For purposes of this Act, a program
7 of family life education is a program that –

8 (1) Is age-appropriate and medically accurate;

9 (2) Does not teach or promote religion;

10 (3) Teaches that abstinence is the only sure way to avoid pregnancy or
11 sexually transmitted diseases;

12 (4) Stresses the value of abstinence while not ignoring those young people
13 who have had or are having sexual intercourse;

14 (5) Provides information about the health benefits and side effects of all
15 contraceptives and barrier methods as a means to prevent pregnancy;

16 (6) Provides information about the health benefits and side effects of all
17 contraceptives and barrier methods as a means to reduce the risk of contracting
18 sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS;

19 (7) Encourages family communication about sexuality between parent and
20 child;

21 (8) Teaches young people the skills to make responsible decisions about
22 sexuality, including how to avoid unwanted verbal, physical, and sexual advances
23 and how not to make unwanted verbal, physical, and sexual advances; and

24 (9) Teaches young people how alcohol and drug use can effect responsible
25 decision making.

1 (C) Additional Activities. – In carrying out a program of family life education, a
2 city or municipality may expend a grant under paragraph (A) to carry out educational and
3 motivational activities that help young people –

4 (1) Gain knowledge about the physical, emotional, biological, and
5 hormonal changes of adolescence and subsequent stages of human maturation;

6 (2) Develop the knowledge and skills necessary to ensure and protect their
7 sexual and reproductive health from unintended pregnancy and sexually
8 transmitted disease, including HIV/AIDS throughout their lifespan;

9 (3) Gain knowledge about the specific involvement of and male
10 responsibility in sexual decision making;

11 (4) Develop healthy attitudes and values about adolescent growth and
12 development, body image, gender roles, racial and ethnic diversity, sexual
13 orientation, and other subjects;

14 (5) Develop and practice healthy life skills including goal-setting, decision
15 making, negotiation, communication, and stress management;

16 (6) Promote self-esteem and positive interpersonal skills focusing on
17 relationship dynamics, including, but not limited to, friendships, dating, romantic
18 involvement, marriage and family interactions; and

19 (7) Prepare for the adult world by focusing on educational and career
20 success, including developing skills for employment preparation, job seeking,
21 independent living, financial self-sufficiency, and workplace productivity.

22 SECTION 4. *Evaluation of Programs.* –

23 (A) *In General.* – For the purpose of evaluating the effectiveness of programs of
24 family life education carried out with a grant under Section 3, evaluations of such
25 program shall be carried out in accordance with paragraphs (B) and (C).

1 **(B) National Evaluation. –**

2 **(1) In General. –** The Secretary shall provide for a national evaluation of a
3 representative sample of programs of family life education carried out with grants
4 under section 3. A condition for the receipt of such a grant is that the city or
5 municipality involved agrees to cooperate with the evaluation. The purposes of the
6 national evaluation shall be the determination of –

7 **(a)** The effectiveness of such programs in helping to delay the
8 initiation of sexual intercourse and other high-risk behaviors;

9 **(b)** The effectiveness of such programs in preventing adolescent
10 pregnancy;

11 **(c)** The effectiveness of such programs in preventing sexually
12 transmitted disease, including HIV/AIDS;

13 **(d)** The effectiveness of such programs in increasing contraceptive
14 knowledge and contraceptive behaviors when sexual intercourse occurs;
15 and

16 **(e)** A list of best practices based upon essential programmatic
17 components of evaluated programs that have led to success in
18 subparagraphs (a) through (d).

19 **(2) Report. –** A report providing the results of the national evaluation under
20 paragraph (1) shall be submitted to the Congress not later than March 31 following
21 the first year of the implementation of this law, with an interim report provided on
22 a yearly basis at the end of each fiscal year.

23 **(C) Individual City/ Municipality Evaluations. –**

24 **(1) In General. –** A condition for the receipt of a grant under Section 3 is
25 that the city or municipality involved agrees to provide for the evaluation of the

1 programs of family education carried out with the grant in accordance with the
2 following:

3 (a) The evaluation will be conducted by an external, independent
4 entity.

5 (b) The purposes of the evaluation will be the determination of –

6 (i) The effectiveness of such programs in helping to delay the
7 initiation of sexual intercourse and other high-risk behaviors;

8 (ii) The effectiveness of such programs in preventing
9 adolescent pregnancy;

10 (iii) The effectiveness of such programs in preventing
11 sexually transmitted disease, including HIV/AIDS; and

12 (iv) The effectiveness of such programs in increasing
13 contraceptive knowledge and contraceptive behaviors when sexual
14 intercourse occurs.

15 (2) *Use of Grant.* – A condition for the receipt of a grant under section 3 is
16 that the city or municipality involved agrees that not more than ten per cent (10%)
17 of the grant will be expended for the evaluation under paragraph (1).

18 SECTION 5. *Appropriations.* – To carry out the provisions of this Act, such sum
19 as may be necessary is hereby authorized to be appropriated from the National Treasury.

20 SECTION 6. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or
21 unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other
22 provisions hereof.

1 SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, and issuances, or
2 portions thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby
3 repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

4 SECTION 8. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
5 its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

/ml26Nov2015