

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



16 JAN 13 P3:33

SENATE
S. No. 3080

RECEIVED BY: [Signature]

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

AN ACT
REQUIRING SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE PRACTITIONERS IN SCHOOLS
WITHIN A CITY WITH A POPULATION OF ONE MILLION OR MORE

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 13, Section 11 states:

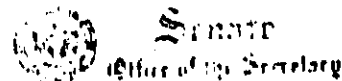
The State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the under-privileged, sick, elderly, disabled, women,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

According to Department of Education, health problems are among the leading causes of poor learning outcomes and drop-outs among pupils. Common ailments found among Grade 1-3 pupils included dental caries (82%), Acute Upper Respiratory Infections (20%), pediculosis (17%), undernutrition (14%), iron deficiency anemia (7%), impacted cerumen (6%), among others. Requiring schools that fall under the conditions specified in this bill to employ a health care practitioner will help decrease the number of health-related problems among our students. ¹

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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¹ This bill was originally filed in the Fourteenth Congress, Second Regular Session and refiled in 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. *Purpose.* – To improve the provision of medical care and services
2 to school children many of whom would otherwise not have access to such services.

3 SECTION 2. *Coverage.* – In cities with a population of one million or more, at
4 least one full-time school health practitioner shall be employed in each public elementary
5 and secondary school.

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7 or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended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

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

Approved,