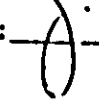


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)



'16 JAN 28 P3:41

SENATE
S. No. 3161

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

AN ACT
REQUIRING HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS TO REPORT CASES
OF ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANT INFECTIONS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Constitution, Article 2, Section 15 states:

Section 15. The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them.

The *Philippine Daily Inquirer* recently reported about a new health menace: Superbugs.¹ The Superbug was identified as the New Delhi *metallo-beta-lactamase (NDM-1)*, a *unique* genetic mechanism identified in India, Pakistan, and the United Kingdom. Laboratory tests showed that this kind of germs were not killed by carbapenems, a group of antibiotics often reserved as a last resort for emergency treatment for multi-drug resistant bugs.²

Scientists have found that with more people traveling to find less costly medical treatments, particularly for procedures such as cosmetic surgery, the new superbug could soon spread across the globe. Because of medical tourism and international travel in general, resistance to these types of bacteria has the potential to spread around the world very quickly.³

¹ 15 September 2010 issue.

² <http://globalnation.inquirer.net/news/breakingnews/view/20100811-Z86154/New-superbugs-spreading-from-South-Asiastudy>

³ <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE67A0YU20100811>

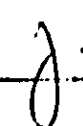
Proper reporting and quarantine procedures must be established not only to contain but also to prevent the entry of this deadly superbug that may cause the next global pandemic.⁴

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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⁴ This bill was originally filed during the Fifteenth Congress, First Regular Session.

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AN ACT
REQUIRING HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS TO REPORT CASES
OF ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANT INFECTIONS

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

1 SECTION 1. *Anti-Microbial Resistant Infections; Duty to Report.* – (A) Upon
2 considering that the infection of a patient in a hospital, nursing home, or other health care
3 facility is resisting antimicrobial treatment, the prescribing physician shall immediately
4 arrange for culturing and laboratory testing of such infection, and for apprising the
5 facility's administrator and its director of nursing of the case.

6 (B) Upon issuing its findings, the laboratory shall send a copy thereof to the
7 Department of Health.

8 SECTION 2. *Implementing Rules and Regulations; Standard Operating*
9 *Procedure.* – The Secretary of Health shall draft the implementing rules and regulations
10 of this Act, including the standard operating procedure to be followed by hospitals,
11 nursing homes, and other health care facilities upon discovery of antimicrobial resistant
12 cases.

13 SECTION 3. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is held invalid or
14 unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other
15 provisions hereof.

1 SECTION 4. *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 5. *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,

/clr7Dec2015