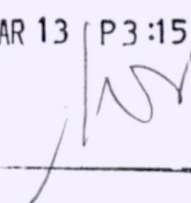




SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

'17 MAR 13 P3:15

RECEIVED BY: 

SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1386

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 19 AND 39 OF REPUBLIC ACT NUMBER SEVEN THOUSAND AND THREE HUNDRED AND FIVE (R.A. 7305) OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE MAGNA CARTA OF PUBLIC HEALTH WORKERS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Philippine Constitution, Article XIII, Section 3 thereof, states that:

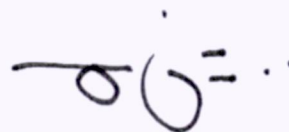
"The State shall afford full protection to labor, local and overseas, organized and unorganized, and promote full employment and equality of employment opportunities for all. xxx"

According to the statement of the Health Secretary, Sec. Paulyne Rosell-Ubial, the country is short of 15,000 doctors to be able to adequately meet the health needs of Filipinos each year. Furthermore, she stated that there is a lack of volunteer doctors to go to the rural areas, not to mention the continuing exodus of nurses going out of the country for higher salary and better opportunities. The Secretary also mentioned that, despite the provision of giving salaries, compensation pay, allowances, there are some local government units that do not provide all the benefits to the health workers.

For these reasons, our health sector is suffering and Filipinos are deprived of medical attention as the health-care brain drain continues.

It is the purpose of the bill to increase the salary of Rural Health Physicians from salary grade 24 to 26. Moreover, the proposed legislation includes a provision for the sanction of local government units who violate the giving of salary and allowances of public rural health physicians and other health workers.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JOE V. EJERCITO', with a horizontal line above the first part of the signature.

JOSEPH VICTOR EJERCITO



Senate
Office of the Secretary

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

1 **SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy.** The State affirms labor as a primary
2 social economic force. It shall protect the rights of workers and promote their
3 welfare.

4 **SEC.2.** Section 19 of Republic Act Number Seven Thousand and Five (RA
5 7305) otherwise known as the "Magna Carta of Public Health Workers" is hereby
6 amended to read as follows:

7 "Section 19. Salaries.- In the determination of the salary scale of public
8 health workers, the provisions of Republic Act No. 6758 shall govern, except that
9 the benchmark for Rural Health Physicians shall be upgraded to grade [24] 26."

10 **SEC.3.** Section 39 of Republic Act Number Seven Thousand and Five (RA
11 7305) otherwise known as the "Magna Carta of Public Health Workers" is hereby
12 amended to add the following paragraph to read as follows:

13 "Section 39. Penal Provision. Xxx

1 "LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WHO WILLFULLY CIRCUMVENT
2 OR VIOLATE THE GIVING OF SALARY, COMPENSATION, PAY AND
3 ALLOWANCE OF PUBLIC RURAL HEALTH PHYSICIANS AND OTHER
4 PUBLIC HEALTH WORKERS AS PROVIDED IN RA 7305 SHALL BE A
5 GROUND FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION"

6 **SEC.4. Separability Clause** - If any provisions of this Act shall be held to be
7 unconstitutional, the remainder of the Act not otherwise affected shall remain in
8 full force and effect.

9 **SEC.5. Repealing Clause** - All laws, orders, rules and regulations, parts
10 thereof, inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

11 **SEC. 6. Effectivity Clause** - This Act shall take effect thirty (30) days after
12 its complete publication in two (2) national newspaper of general circulation or in
13 the Official Gazette.

14 *Approved,*