



SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION )

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SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1405

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

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AN ACT  
PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF BARANGAY  
DRUGSTORES, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "BOTICA SA BARANGAY"  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The bill aims for the establishment of a '*Botica sa Bayan*' or drugstores to be located in barangays, which its primary priority is to have at least one *Botica* per barangay especially in economically depressed areas who do not have access to medicines and other factors as such, the basis of population and poverty incidence.

The said bill shall provide drugs included in the 'core list' of the national drug formulary. Existing '*Botica sa Bayan*' shall be maintained and shall be covered by relevant provisions of this Act.

Growth and development in the country is not impossible if we have a healthcare system that is universal, as this is one of the major key drivers to increase the level of productivity of our citizens that will eventually lead to a progressive economy. Healthcare is of national concern that shouldn't be neglected nor taken for granted, and by doing this we help them to become as movers and enablers of our society.

Based from the foregoing, immediate passage of the bill is earnestly sought.

JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO



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

- 1 SECTION 1. Short Title - This Act shall be known and cited as the "Botica sa
- 2 Barangay Act of 2017".
- 3
- 4 SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. - The State shall protect and promote the right
- 5 to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them. Towards
- 6 this end, the State shall provide adequate social services and endeavor to
- 7 make essential goods, health and other social services available to every
- 8 barangay at affordable cost.
- 9
- 10 SEC. 3. Botica sa Barangay. - The Department of Health shall, within thirty
- 11 (30) days after the approval of this Act, undertake a three-year program for
- 12 the establishment of barangay drugstores or Botica sa Barangay (BSB) in every
- 13 barangay, giving priority to barangays on the basis of population, poverty
- 14 incidence, extent of medical health care and/or services, geographical
- 15 conditions, financial and other socio-economic factors and such other
- 16 considerations as may be deemed necessary in undertaking the program
- 17 within the context of national plans and policies on social services, health and
- 18 medical care.
- 19

20 **SEC. 4. Establishment Priority.** - The Department of Health (DOH) shall, in  
21 the establishment of the BSB, undertake prior consultations with the  
22 Municipal Development Council concerned; Provided, That in the  
23 establishment of the BSB, highest priority shall be given to those economically  
24 depressed barangays. Existing BSBs shall be maintained and shall be covered  
25 by relevant provisions of this Act.

26  
27 **SEC. 5. Drugs Available.** - The BSB shall make available, only those drugs  
28 included in the "core list" of the national drug formulary, and the names  
29 thereof listed in their respective generic and trade names made available to  
30 the public.

31  
32 **SEC. 6. Botica sa Barangay Aide.** - Sale of medicines at the BSB shall be  
33 facilitated by an aide, known as the Botica sa Barangay Aide, who shall be  
34 chosen by and trained under the direction of the DOH.

35  
36 **SEC. 7. Implementing Rules and Guidelines.** - This Department of Health  
37 shall issue the necessary rules and guidelines as may be needed to fully  
38 implement the provisions of this Act. In addition, the DOH shall also embark  
39 on a sustained promotional campaign to increase the community's awareness  
40 of the BSB through its personnel, non-governmental organizations, barangay  
41 official and the print and broadcast media.

42  
43 **SEC. 8. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, presidential decrees and other executive  
44 issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with  
45 the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

46  
47 **SEC. 9. Effectivity.** -This Act shall take effect upon fifteen (15) days after  
48 complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of  
49 general circulation.

50  
51  
52 *Approved,*