

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

'04 JUL 14 P3:16

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SENATE
S.B. NO. 1428

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Prostate cancer is now one of the leading causes of death among Filipino males. Statistics show that about 25% of men afflicted with prostate cancer die of the disease. Patients who survive the cancer still require treatment to ease symptoms such as pain, bleeding, and urinary obstruction.

The American Cancer Society and the American Urological Association recommend that the men over forty (40) years or older undergo periodic testing for the early detection of prostate cancer. Early detection will prevent future disease progression. Also, treatment in the early stages of cancer is less than when done in its advanced stages.

This bill seeks to establish a program that will educate the public and increase awareness on prostate cancer.

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO *df*

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**AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION ON PROSTATE
CANCER**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act may be cited as the "Prostate Cancer Public Awareness Act."

SECTION 2. *Definition Of Terms.* - For purposes of this Act, the term—

a. DIRECTOR - means the Director of the Non-Communicable Disease Department of Health.

SECTION 3. Establishment of Program for Public Education on Prostate Cancer. - The Director shall carry out a program on prostate cancer. Through that program, he shall conduct or support activities—

- a. to educate males who are forty (40) years of age or older on the need to periodically undergo examinations for such cancer, including education on the frequency and type of such examination that are appropriate for various age groups of such men; and
- b. to educate males on the availability and appropriateness of procedures for detecting cancer in its early stages, including the procedure known as prostate ultrasound.

SECTION 4. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause.* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to, or inconsistent with, the provision of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SECTION 6. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen days (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.