

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

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SENATE

S. B. No. 1857

Introduced by Senator LUISA "LOI" P. EJERCITO ESTRADA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Sports, more than a physical game, is a good way of establishing discipline and building character. With proper disposition, any person engaged into any sporting activity, as studies suggest, becomes a better individual, not only physically but even emotionally, intellectually and to a certain extent spiritually.

Unfortunately, pressures, emanating from sports' highly competitive nature and the consequent overzealous desire to win, move an individual to resort to cheating, such as taking of performance-enhancement drugs, if only to ensure victory. Suddenly, sports ceases to be a test of endurance but a venue for dishonesty and fiendish maneuverings.

Although the government expends effort to penalize those athletes found to be taking performance-enhancement drugs, the same prove futile because of inability to detect new forms of drugs and who among the athletes are taking the same.

The purpose of this measure is to direct the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) to establish a program to support research and training in methods of detecting the use of performance-enhancing drugs by athletes. Through this, the government can finally curb effectively the sad practice of our athletes and hence, consequently restoring the image of sports as a source of national pride and not public shame.

Hence, immediate passage of the bill is earnestly sought.



LUISA "LOI" P. EJERCITO ESTRADA
Senator

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AN ACT
DIRECTING THE PHILIPPINE SPORTS COMMISSION TO ESTABLISH A
PROGRAM TO SUPPORT RESEARCH AND TRAINING IN METHODS OF
DETECTING THE USE OF PERFORMANCE-ENHANCING DRUGS BY ATHLETES,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.*- This Act shall be known as the "*Athletic Performance-Enhancing Drugs Research and Detection Act.*"

Section 2. *Research and Detection Programs Established.* -

a) IN GENERAL- The Chairman of the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC), in coordination with the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) shall establish and administer a program to support research into the use of performance-enhancing substances by athletes, and methods of detecting their use.

b) GRANTS-

(1) IN GENERAL- The program shall include grants of financial assistance, awarded on a competition basis, to support the advancement and improvement of research into the use of performance-enhancing substances by athletes, and methods of detecting their use.

(2) BANNED SUBSTANCES- In carrying out the program the Chairman shall consider research proposals involving performance-enhancing substances banned from use by competitors in events sanctioned by organizations, such as the International Olympic Committee, the Philippine Olympic Committee, and other bodies

(3) RESEARCH CONCENTRATION- In carrying out the program, the Chairman shall—

(A) fund research on the detection of naturally-occurring steroids, such as testosterone, and other testosterone precursors (e.g., androstendione), and other substances, such as human growth hormone and erythropoietin for which no tests are available but for which there is evidence of abuse or abuse potential;

(B) fund research that focuses on population studies to ensure that tests are accurate for men, women, all relevant age, and major ethnic groups; and

(C) not fund research on drugs of abuse, such as cocaine, phencyclidine, marijuana, morphine/codeine, benzodiazepines, barbiturates, and methamphetamine/amphetamine.

c) TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC PEER REVIEW-

(1) IN GENERAL- The Chairman shall establish appropriate technical and scientific peer review procedures for evaluating applications for grants under the program.

(2) IMPLEMENTATION- The Chairman shall—

(A) Ensure that grant applicants meet a set of minimum criteria before receiving consideration for an award under the program;

(B) Give preference to laboratories with an established record of athletic drug testing analysis;

(3) CRITERIA- The list of minimum criteria shall include requirements that each applicant—

(A) Demonstrate a record of publication and research in the area of drug testing;

(B) Provide a plan detailing the direct transference of the research findings to lab applications in athletic drug testing; and

(C) Certify that it is a not-for-profit research program.

(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS- There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to comply with requirements of this Act.

(5) PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION PROGRAMS.

a) IN GENERAL- The Chairman shall develop a grant program to fund educational substance abuse prevention and intervention programs related to the use of performance-enhancing substances by high school and college student athletes. The chairman shall establish a set of minimum criteria for applicants to receive consideration for an award under the program. The list of minimum criteria shall include requirements that each applicant—

- 1) propose an intervention and prevention program based on methodologically sound evaluation with evidence of drug prevention efficacy; and
- 2) demonstrate a record of publication and research in the area of athletic drug use prevention.

SECTION 3. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provisions not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 4. *Repealing Clause.* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SECTION 5. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.