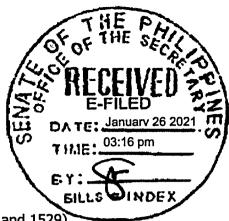
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session



(In substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 1442 and 1529)

SENATE

S. B. No. _2023

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Prepared and submitted jointly by the Committees on Health and Demography, Public Works, and Finance, with Senators Cayetano, Go, and Villar as authors hereof

AN ACT

REQUIRING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF QUARANTINE FACILITIES IN EVERY REGION IN THE COUNTRY, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Quarantine Facilities
Act."

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policies.* - It is the declared policy of the State to improve the delivery of health care services to the people, and to protect the people from public health threats during public health emergencies through the efficient and effective response system for emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases, diseases for elimination and eradication, epidemics, and health events including chemical, radio-nuclear and environmental agents of public health concern.

9 **SEC. 3.** *Establishment of Quarantine Facilities.* There shall be established 10 quarantine facilities in every region in the country. The quarantine facilities shall be 11 fully equipped to include the needs of individuals who are quarantined including, but 12 not limited to, adequate food, clothing, means of communication, and competent 13 medical care.

14 The Department of Health (DOH), in coordination with local government units 15 (LGUs) concerned, shall be in charge of the establishment of quarantine facilities. Each 16 location for every quarantine facility shall be identified by the DOH in close

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coordination with LGUs and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources
(DENR); *Provided*, That the quarantine facilities shall be strategically located to ensure
the safety of the community.

SEC. 4. *Operations and Management of the Quarantine Facilities.* - The DOH-Bureau of Quarantine (DOH-BOQ) shall be primarily responsible for the operation, supervision, and management of the quarantine facilities established under this Act. The DOH shall issue guidelines on the procedure and proper use of quarantine facilities, including transfer and transport protocols, within thirty (30) days from the effectivity this Act.

10 The DOH shall determine the use of quarantine facilities in the absence of 11 epidemics, pandemics or public health emergencies of national concern.

SEC. 5. *Appropriations.* – The Secretary of Health shall include in the Department's programs the establishment of additional quarantine facilities, stations, grounds and anchorages, including the expansion of existing quarantine facilities. The amount necessary to establish and operate quarantine facilities shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - Within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act, the DOH-BOQ, the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), in consultation with relevant stakeholders, shall issue the implementing rules and regulations of this Act.

SEC. 7. Separability Clause. - Any portion or provision of this Act that is declared unconstitutional shall not have the effect of nullifying other portions or provisions hereof as long as such remaining portions can still subsist and be given effect in their entirety.

SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

29 **SEC. 9.** *Effectivity.* **-** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its 30 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

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