

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



23 JAN -4 P5 :25

SENATE
S. No. 1636

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by Senator MARK A. VILLAR

AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DAYCARE CENTERS IN ALL NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, INSTRUMENTALITIES AND/OR GOVERNMENT-OWNED AND –CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS FOR THE EMPLOYEES’ CHILDREN AGED FIVE (5) YEARS OLD AND BELOW, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 12, Article II of the Constitution provides that the State recognized the sanctity of the family as a basic autonomous social institution and shall support the natural and primary right and duty of parents in the rearing of the youth for civic efficiency and development of moral character.

In September 2022, 47.58 million Filipinos were employed. The average weekly hours worked by an employed person was estimated at 39.6 hours per week.¹ These figures show the struggle of Filipino working parents in allotting time to take care of their children. This concern has an impact both to parents who may have difficulties in balancing their work from their responsibility in rearing their children, and to the young ones who in their early stage of development needs quality care from their parents.

This bill seeks to direct all government agencies to provide daycare facilities for their employees’ children aged five (5) years old and below in order to assist Filipino working parents in ensuring the welfare and development of their children without prejudicing their employment.

For this reason, I recommend the early approval of this bill.

MARK A. VILLAR

¹ Employment Rate in September 2022 is Estimated at 95.0 percent. <https://psa.gov.ph/statistics/survey/Labor-and-employment/labor-force-survey/title/Employment%20Rate%20in%20September%202022%20is%20Estimated%20at%2095.0%20Percent> Release Date: November 8, 2022.

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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 as the “Day Care Services
2 Act of 2022”.

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby the policy of the State to ensure
4 the welfare and development of the youth in recognition of their vital role in nation-
5 building, and shall promote and protect their physical, intellectual, and social well-
6 being. It is also the policy of the State to support social services to combine family
7 obligations with work responsibilities, as well as the harmonization of work and
8 family responsibilities for both men and women, in accordance with the Philippine’s
9 commitment to the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women
10 (CEDAW).

11 Sec. 3. *Coverage.* – All government agencies and any of its political
12 subdivisions, government owned and/or controlled corporations, shall establish a
13 daycare center for their employees’ children aged five (5) years and below.

1 Sec. 4. The daycare center shall be available to all government employees
2 regardless of the length and status of their employment during the established
3 working hours of the concerned government office.

4 Sec. 5. The daycare center shall be handled by qualified and competent
5 personnel with adequate training in Early Childhood Care and Development from the
6 Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) or its accredited
7 organizations and institutions.

8 Sec. 6. The requirement for the establishment of a daycare center shall not
9 be applicable in case there is a daycare facility which is accessible from the
10 employer's establishment and such employer makes arrangements for the
11 reservation and free use of such facility for the benefit of his employees during their
12 respective working days.

13 Sec. 7. The DSWD shall promulgate rules and regulations to implement the
14 provisions of this Act.

15 Sec. 8. *Appropriations.* – The fund needed to initially implement the
16 provisions of this Act must be sourced primarily from the General Appropriations Act.
17 This law shall be in the form of an automatic appropriations that shall be
18 programmed annually, without regard to the budget proposal or approved
19 appropriations of the concerned government agencies and any of its political
20 subdivisions, government owned and/or controlled corporations.

21 Sec. 8. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, or
22 portions thereof, inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified
23 accordingly.

24 Sec. 9. *Separability Clause.* – Should any part or provision of this Act be
25 declared unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions hereof nor otherwise
26 affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

27 Sec. 10. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) after its complete
28 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspaper of general
29 circulation.

Approved,