

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



23 JUL 20 P2:38

SENATE
S. No. 2334

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Introduced by Senator MARK A. VILLAR

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A PUBLIC VETERINARY CLINIC IN EVERY CITY AND
MUNICIPALITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Animals play a vital role in the stability of the environment, ecosystem, and human lives. They have an intrinsic value and status beyond their role as part of an ecosystem.

In the pursuit of promoting animal welfare, it is relevant to provide more access to affordable and adequate veterinary clinics. To date, veterinary clinics are usually privately-owned which many cannot afford.

The establishment of veterinary clinics in every city or municipality may provide convenient access to farmers and pet owners of essential healthcare for their animals.

Moreover, this initiative seeks to protect the local government units from the incursion of emerging and existing animal diseases while also providing immediate control and management of any possible livestock infection outbreaks.

As such, this bill hopes to address the challenge of limited access to quality veterinary healthcare services in different areas of the country.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

MARK A. VILLAR

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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 "*Animal Medical Center*
2 *Act*".

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is declared a policy of the State to protect the
4 welfare of every animal and ensure that their needs are adequately met.

5 Towards this end, this measure seeks to strengthen animal health and
6 veterinary services in all local government units in the country.

7 Sec. 3. *Establishment.* – There shall be established in every city and
8 municipality a public veterinary clinic, which shall be under the direct control and
9 supervision of the city or municipal local government unit (LGU), in consultation with
10 the Department of Agriculture – Bureau of Animal Industry (DA-BAI).

11 Sec. 4. *Provision of Space.* – The local government unit shall provide an
12 adequate and accessible lot or space where the veterinary clinic shall be constructed
13 or established.

14 Sec. 5. *Design, Policies, Terms and Conditions.* – The LGU shall prepare, in
15 consultation with the DA-BAI, the design of the structure. The local government unit
16 shall formulate policies, guidelines, terms, and conditions relative to the operation and
17 maintenance of the Veterinary Clinic.

1 Sec. 6. *Administration.* – The local chief executive shall appoint a Chief of
2 Veterinary Clinic, who shall have the same qualifications, compensation, and powers
3 generally exercised by a Chief of a hospital, in accordance with rules and regulations
4 of the Civil Service Commission and the qualification requirements for such office. The
5 Chief Veterinary Clinic shall render full-time service and be responsible for its
6 administration and operation. The local chief executive shall appoint the necessary
7 personnel and staff of the veterinary clinic.

8 Sec. 7. *Funding.* – The city or municipal local government unit shall provide the
9 necessary funds for the establishment of their respective public veterinary clinic. The
10 Secretary of the DA shall include in the Department’s subsidy program, support for
11 the capital outlay requirements of the said facility.

12 Sec. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within ninety (90) days after
13 the approval of this Act, the DA-BAI shall, in coordination with the DILG, and such
14 other relevant agencies, prepare and issue the necessary rules and regulations for the
15 effective implementation of this Act.

16 Sec. 9. *Separability Clause.* – Any portion or provisions of this Act that may be
17 declared unconstitutional or invalid and shall not have the effect of nullifying other
18 portions or provisions hereof as long as such

19 Sec. 10. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders,
20 memoranda, circulars, and other issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent
21 with the Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

22 Sec. 11. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
23 publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,