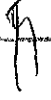


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

7 JUL -4 11:59

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

Senate Bill No. 1015

INTRODUCED BY SEN. MANNY VILLAR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Cerebral palsy is an umbrella-like term used to describe a group of chronic disorders impairing control of movement that appear in the first few years of life and generally do not worsen over time. The disorders are caused by faulty development of or damage to motor areas in the brain that disrupts the brain's ability to control movement and posture.

Early signs of cerebral palsy usually appear before 3 years of age. Infants with cerebral palsy are frequently slow to reach developmental milestones such as learning to roll over, sit, crawl, smile, or walk. Cerebral palsy may be congenital or acquired after birth. Several of the causes of cerebral palsy that have been identified through research are preventable or treatable: head injury, jaundice, Rh incompatibility, and rubella (German measles).

There is no standard therapy that works for all patients. Drugs can be used to control seizures and muscle spasms, special braces can compensate for muscle imbalance. Surgery, mechanical aids to help overcome impairments, counseling for emotional and psychological needs, and physical, occupational, speech, and behavioral therapy may be employed.

At this time, cerebral palsy cannot be cured, but due to medical research, many patients can enjoy near-normal lives if their neurological problems are properly managed.

This bill will raise the state of awareness and concerns of the public to the many Filipinos are afflicted with cerebral palsy.


MANNY VILLAR

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**AN ACT TO DECLARE THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER AS CEREBRAL
PALSY AWARENESS AND PROTECTION MONTH**

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

SECTION 1. Title- This Act shall be known and cited as the "Cerebral Palsy Awareness and Protection Month".

SECTION 2. The month of September is permanently designated as "Cerebral Palsy Awareness and Protection Month" in the Philippines.

SECTION 3. The Department of Health and the Department of Education shall urge all citizens to recognize "Cerebral Palsy Awareness and Protection Month" and shall hold programs and activities for the observance of the event. The Departments shall likewise provide encouragement and assistance to those organizations that offer educational, advocacy and support services for those with cerebral palsy.

SECTION 4. Implementing Rules and Regulations.- The Department of Health shall promulgate the appropriate rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act within sixty (60) days from its approval.

SECTION 5. Separability Clause.- If any provision or part thereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 6. 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 7. Effectivity Clause.- This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.