Introduced by Senator	Antonio "Sonny" F	. Trillanes IV	
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FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session)))	8	OCT -7
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EXPLANATORY NOTE

A government employee is entitled for vacation and sick leaves he/she earned. In cases where a government employee experiences a serious illness or injury, he/she, however, is sometimes forced to exhaust all his/her leave credits and continue to be on leave without compensation. This is an unfortunate event for an employee.

This bill, thus, is intended to provide alleviation for the hardship caused to an employee and to his/her family experiencing the aforesaid situation. It seeks to create a "Sick Leave Bank" for government employees. As used in this bill, Sick Leave Bank refers to a pool of sick days which will be established by employees who will make a one time donation of their accumulated local sick days. Depending on the participant's donation, sick leaves in a sick leave bank may be used by any participating employee in the Agency who has exhausted his or her accrued vacation time, personal days, sick leave and compensatory time due to serious illness or injury.

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

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ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV Senator

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FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE	
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES	
Second Regular Session	

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SENATE

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s. no. <u>2660</u>

Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

AN ACT

CREATING A SICK LEAVE BANK FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

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

1	SE	CTION 1. Short Title This Act shall be known as the "Sick Leave Bank Act."
2		
3	SE	C. 2. Definition of Terms As used in this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,
4	the follow	ing terms shall mean:
5	a)	"Commission" means the Civil Service Commission;
6	b)	"Agency" means any branch, department, board, committee or commission of the
7		government;
8	c)	"Sick leave bank" means a depository into which participating employees may donate
9		accrued sick leave time for allocation to other participating employees;
10	d)	"Participating employee" means a permanent full- or part-time employee who has
11		been employed by a government agency for a period of six (6) months or more who
12		voluntarily enrolls in the sick leave bank by depositing at least three (3) full days of
13		accrued sick leave in that bank;
14	e)	"Catastrophic illness or injury" shall mean those illnesses and injuries which will be
15		classified as such by the Commission.

1	SEC. 3. Sick Leave Bank The Commission shall establish a plan allowing
2	participating employees in each Agency to bank a designated amount or portion of their accrued
3	sick leave in a sick leave bank to be used by any participating employee in the Agency who has
4	exhausted his or her accrued vacation time, personal days, sick leave and compensatory time.
5	The Commission shall promulgate rules governing the operation of the plan subject, however, to
6	the following restrictions and limitations:
7	(a) Participation in the sick leave bank shall, at all times, be voluntary on the part of any
8	employee.
9	(b) A participating employee may deposit into the sick leave bank as much accrued sick
10	leave as desired provided that the participating employee shall retain in his or her own
11	account at least (five) 5 sick days.
12	(c) A government employee cannot avail the benefits of a sick leave bank unless he
13	becomes a member of that bank by depositing at three (3) full days of accrued sick leave
14	in that bank.
15	(d) Any sick leave in the sick leave bank used by a participating employee shall be only
16	for that employee's personal catastrophic illness or injury.
17	(e) A participating employee shall not use sick leave accumulated in the sick leave bank
18	until all of his or her accrued vacation time, personal days, sick leave and compensatory
19	time have been used.
20	(f) Participating employees who transfer from one Agency to another may transfer their
21	participation in the sick leave bank.
22	(g) An employee who cancels his or her participation in the sick leave bank shall not be
23	eligible to withdraw the sick leave time he or she has contributed to the pool.
24	(h) Provisions for appeal of adverse decisions affecting a participating employee's use of
25	the sick leave bank shall be made by rule adopted by the Commission.

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(i) Accumulation of sick leave in the sick leave bank shall be on an Agency by Agency
 basis but procedures adopted by rule for the operation of the sick leave bank shall be
 uniform among all Agencies.

4 (j) Upon termination, retirement, or death, neither a participating employee nor the 5 participating employee's estate shall be entitled to payment for unused sick leave 6 acquired from the sick leave bank.

7

8 SEC. 4. *Penalty*. – Any abuse of the use of the sick leave bank shall be investigated by 9 the Agency and the Commission and upon a finding of wrongdoing on the part of a participating 10 employee, that employee shall repay all sick leave days drawn from the sick leave bank and shall 11 be subject to other disciplinary action.

12

SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause*. – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders and other
 issuances, and rules and regulations, or part thereof, contrary to or inconsistent with any
 provision of this Act, are hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

16

17 SEC. 6. Separability Clause. – Should any provision of this Act be found 18 unconstitutional by a court of law, such provision shall be severed from the other provisions, and 19 the same shall not affect the enforceability and effectivity of the remaining provisions of this 20 Act.

21

SEC. 7. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
 complete publication in any two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,