
Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Bill seeks to limit the practice of Cosmetic Dermatology to licensed and qualified physicians with residency training in dermatology or plastic surgery.

Cosmetic dermatological procedure or plastic surgery is a popular procedure done to individuals by reshaping and refining normal structures of the face and body. This is done to improve appearance to boost self-esteem or to repair damaged facial or body structures. Cosmetic dermatology or plastic surgery has become so popular that enterprising individuals are exploiting the opportunity for a very lucrative business. A number of facial care clinics and salons are sprouting like mushrooms to address the demand for cosmetic or plastic surgery. These dermatological clinics and salons usually do not have qualified cosmetic surgeons to perform services like facial restructuring and breast augmentation, including serious procedures like liposuction and tummy tuck. There has been report that the practice had resulted to death or caused facial contusion to the patients.

Government has to step in to protect possible victims of the practice prevalent in the field of cosmetic surgery. Realizing that cosmetic dermatological procedure is dangerous and risky if performed by unqualified plastic surgeons, this proposed measures is governments response to the mandate of the Constitution for the State to protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them.

This is a senate counterpart bill to one filed in the House of Representatives by Rep. Prospero C. Nogales.¹

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

¹ This bill was originally filed during the 14th Congress 1st Regular Session

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SENATE
S. No. 1469

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

1 AN ACT
2 LIMITING THE PRACTICE OF COSMETIC DERMATOLOGY TO LICENSED AND
3 QUALIFIED PHYSICIANS WITH RESIDENCY TRAINING IN DERMATOLOGY.

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

4 SECTION 1. The practice of Cosmetic Dermatology shall be limited to licensed and
5 qualified physicians with residency training in dermatology or plastic surgery.

6 SECTION 2. Cosmetic Dermatology procedures shall include but shall not be limited to
7 cutaneous laser surgery, laser hair removal, acne surgery, sclerotherapy for varicose veins, hair
8 transplantation, electrodesiccation and curettage, electro surgery, injections with steroids,
9 liposuction, tummy tuck, nose reshaping, face lifting, breast lifts, brow lifting and eyelid surgery.

10 Cosmetic procedures which do not require surgery such as facials, body scrubs, chemical
11 peels, dermabrasion and similar treatments maybe done by a trained personnel under the
12 supervision of a physicians defined under Section I hereof.

13 SECTION 3. Violation of this Act, shall, upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not less
14 than Fifty Thousand Pesos (P 50,000.00) but not more than Two Hundred thousand Pesos (P
15 200,000.00) or imprisonment of not less than six (6) months but not more than five (5) years, or
16 both such fine and imprisonment at the discretion of the court.

17 SECTION 4. The Department of Health, in coordination with the Professional Regulation
18 Commission (PRC), shall formulate and issue the rules and regulations necessary to implement
19 this Act within sixty (60) days after its approval.

1 SECTION 5. Any laws, decrees, executive orders, and issuances, or portions thereof
2 which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified
3 accordingly.

4 SECTION 6. This Act, shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in
5 the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved