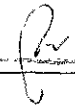


FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

10 JUL 19 4 31

SENATE
S. No. 1506

RECEIVED BY 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The illegal drugs menace is now considered public enemy no. 1 all over the world and poses a grave threat to a country's national security. In our country, it has alarmingly penetrated almost all sectors and levels of society including the government, business, and even law enforcement agencies and it may only take a little more time before the Philippines becomes another Colombia.

Several government agencies envisioned to lead the government's total war against dangerous drugs were created. Laws were passed to encourage the participation of the Local Government Units in both the prevention and control of the illegal menace. In short, our concern is how to eradicate or prevent the spread of illicit drug traffic in the country. We should not, however, forget that a drug dependent is not a criminal but a victim who is in need of medical and psychiatric treatment and still can become a useful member of society. The government should likewise direct its national, programs to promote and sustain the treatment and rehabilitation of victims of drug abuse, especially in the critical after-care and social reintegration stages.

Bringing a person back to the state of being where he can successfully cope with the physical, psychological and social demands of family and community life is one way of helping a sick person become a useful and productive member of the community. It is by the establishment of a rehabilitation center in every region of the country that we, can make accessible to every drug dependent medical facilities for a speedy recovery from the physical and

mental trauma brought about by dangerous drugs. Hence, this bill seeks to establish a drug rehabilitation center in every region in the country.

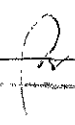
This is a Senate counterpart bill to one filed in the House of Representatives by Rep. Roque R. Ablan Jr.*

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

* This bill was originally filed in the 14th Congress.

10 JUL 19 19:31

SENATE
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1 AN ACT
2 PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DRUG REHABILITATION CENTER IN
3 EVERY REGION OF THE COUNTRY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

4 SECTION 1. *Creation.* - There shall be established, under the supervision of the
5 Department of Health, drug rehabilitation center in every region of the country, hereinafter
6 referred to as the Center.

7 SECTION 2. *Objectives and Functions.* - The Center shall have the following objectives
8 and functions:

9 (A) To provide care, treatment and accommodation to persons found to be drug
10 dependents;

11 (B) To bring a drug dependent to a state where he is physically, psychologically and
12 socially capable of coping with problems common to his peer group;

13 (C) To facilitate and encourage the dissemination and exchange of ideas and information
14 on the prevention, care, treatment and control of drug addiction;

15 (D) To provide after-care, follow-up and social reintegration services to enable a drug
16 dependent to adjust to family and community life after his release;

17 (E) To provide each drug dependent motivation to regain self-confidence, rediscover his
18 working abilities and develop a sense of responsibility for himself;

19 (F) To encourage the formation of organizations and associations composed of parents,
20 guardians and immediate relatives of drug dependents in order to arouse their awareness and

1 enhance their participation in the care, treatment and rehabilitation of their relatives or wards
2 found to be drug dependent patients;

3 (G) To undertake continuous training of physicians, nurses, health officers and social
4 workers on the practical and scientific methods of prevention, care, treatment and rehabilitation
5 of persons found to be drug dependents;

6 (H) To strengthen the emotional and spiritual make-up of an individual drug dependent
7 by conducting regular guidance and counseling sessions as well as interdenominational church
8 services.

9 SECTION 3. *Site of the Center.* - The Secretary of Health in coordination with the
10 Secretary of Public Works and Highways shall, taking into consideration the accessibility of the
11 Center to its clientele, determine the location thereof.

12 SECTION 4. *Organization.* - The Center shall be headed by a Director to be assisted by
13 two (2) Deputy Directors who shall be appointed by the Secretary of Health and vested with
14 powers generally exercised by a Chief and Assistant Chiefs, respectively, of a government
15 hospital.

16 No person shall be appointed Director or Deputy Director unless he possess the following
17 qualifications:

18 (A) At least thirty-five (35) years of age;

19 (B) A physician of good repute; and

20 (C) At least five (5) years experience in the care, treatment and rehabilitation of drug
21 dependents.

22 SECTION 5. *Personnel and Staff* - The Director shall appoint such other personnel and
23 staff as may be necessary for the effective operation of the Center subject to existing laws, rules
24 and regulations.

25 SECTION 6. *Five-Year Development Plan.* - The Center, through its Director, shall be
26 authorized to embark on a Five-Year Development Plan in the fulfilment of the following:

1 (A) To establish additional building facilities equipped with new and modern equipment
2 to serve and cater to drug dependents of the region;

3 (B) To initiate plans for the development of income generating programs for the ultimate
4 purpose of generating resources to provide charity services;

5 (C) To provide hospital pharmacy services, Free dispensaries and health stations; and

6 (D) To provide educational facilities for interns and graduate and undergraduate students
7 of medicine.

8 SECTION 7. *Government Assistance to the Center.* - The Secretary of Health is hereby
9 authorized to call upon any department, bureau, agency or instrumentality of the government for
10 such assistance as may be necessary to effectively implement this Act.

11 SECTION 8. *Rules and Regulations.* - The Director of the Center is hereby authorized,
12 with the approval of the Secretary of Health, to - promulgate such rules and regulations as may
13 be necessary to secure an effective administration of the Center and the effective implementation
14 of the provisions of this Act

15 SECTION 9. *Appropriations.* - The sum necessary for the effective implementation of
16 this Act shall be charged against the appropriations for the Department of Health under the
17 current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such amount as may be necessary for the
18 continued operation of the Center shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

19 SECTION 10. *Separability Clause.* - If any part hereof, is held invalid or
20 unconstitutional, the remainder of the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and
21 subsisting.

22 SECTION 11. *Repealing Clause.* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
23 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent
24 with, the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

1 SECTION 12. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
2 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.