

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

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

10 JUL 19 P4 59

SENATE
S' No. 1601

RECEIVED BY 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to ARTICLE XIII Section 12 of the 1987 Constitution:

“The State shall establish and maintain an effective food and drug regulatory system and undertake appropriate health, manpower development, and research, responsive to the country's health needs and problems.”

Flu is caused by the Influenza virus that invades and multiplies in the respiratory tract. Influenza viruses are divided into three types: A, B, and C. This classification is based on the capability of their components to cause disease. Influenza infects over 30 million people in the U.S. each year, which is roughly 10% to 20% of the U.S. population. Flu and its complications is the sixth leading cause of death in the U.S., killing 20,000 – 40,000 people a year. As of 1997, it is the fourth leading causes of morbidity or illness in the Philippines. Children are down with flu have a risk of developing complications such as sinus, ear infections or worse, develop more serious ailments like pneumonia, meningitis and encephalitis (both are serious infections of the nervous system) or even Reye's syndrome (an extremely rare but serious illness that affects the brain and liver).

This bill's goal is to raise the immunization level against influenza in the most susceptible sector of our society, our children. *

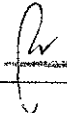

MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

* This bill was originally filed in the Fourteenth Congress, Second Regular Session

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1 AN ACT
2 REQUIRING PARENTS OF CHILDREN IN CERTAIN CHILD CARE SETTINGS TO
3 RECEIVE EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS ON INFLUENZA DISEASE AND INFLUENZA
4 IMMUNIZATIONS
5
6

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

9 SECTION 1. *Program of Influenza Education.* The Secretary of Health shall administer
10 a program of influenza education and outreach to parents and guardians of children ages 6
11 months to 6 years who attend a child caring center, day nursery, child day care center, nursery
12 school, kindergarten or school age child care program. Such program shall include educational
13 materials on influenza and the benefits of influenza immunizations.

14 SECTION 2. *Collaboration.* The Secretary of Health, in collaboration with the
15 Secretary of Education, shall consult with child care providers to distribute the influenza
16 educational materials annually.

17 SECTION 3. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or
18 parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or
19 modified accordingly.

20 SECTION 4. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any provision of this Act is
21 declared to be unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof which are not
22 affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

1 SECTION 5. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days
2 following its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

3 Approved,