

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

SENATE
S. No. 1666

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to Article II, Section 16 of the 1987 Constitution:

“The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.”

Carbon monoxide has been called the "silent killer." Because carbon monoxide is colorless, odorless, tasteless, and non-irritating, victims are not aware of the danger around them. It is a significantly toxic gas and is the most common type of fatal poisoning in many countries. Long term exposure to carbon monoxide can affect memory, brain function, behavior, and cognition. It is thought that the hippocampus, which is the section of the brain that deals with new memories, can be particularly susceptible to long term damage from CO poisoning.

In accordance with the Constitutional provision above, the National Government must set policy directions with regard to carbon monoxide exposure. This bill aims to protect our school children from a preventable threat to their lives and health. *

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
acv

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

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1 AN ACT
2 REQUIRING THE INSTALLATION OF CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS IN SCHOOL
3 BUILDINGS

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

6 SECTION 1. *Installation of Carbon Monoxide Detectors.* The Secretary of Education
7 shall adopt regulations requiring the installation of Carbon Monoxide detectors in every
8 elementary and secondary school building where there is a substantial risk of exposure to carbon
9 monoxide. In the determination of which school buildings have substantial risk of exposure to
10 carbon monoxide, the Department of Education shall be assisted by the Department of Health
11 and the Local Government Unit where the particular school building concerned is located.

12 SECTION 2. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or
13 parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or
14 modified accordingly.

15 SECTION 3. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days
16 following its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

17 Approved,