

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

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10 JUL 20 11:59

SENATE  
S: No. 1677

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

ARTICLE XIII, Section 11 of the 1987 Constitution states :

“The State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the under-privileged, sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children. The State shall endeavor to provide free medical care to paupers.”

According to Department of Education, health problems are among the leading causes of poor learning outcomes and drop-outs among pupils. Common ailments found among Grade 1-3 pupils included dental caries (82%), AURI (20%), pediculosis (17%), undernutrition (14%), iron deficiency anemia (7%), impacted cerumen (6%), among others. Requiring schools that fall under the conditions specified in this bill to employ a health care practitioner will help decrease the number of health-related problems among our students. \*

*Miriam Defensor Santiago*  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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

10 JUL 20 AM 59

SENATE  
S.No. 1677

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

1 AN ACT REQUIRING SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE PRACTITIONERS IN SCHOOLS  
2 WITHIN A CITY WITH A POPULATION OF ONE MILLION OR MORE

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

5 SECTION 1. *Purpose* – To improve the provision of medical care and services to  
6 school children many of whom would otherwise not have access to such services.

7 SECTION 2. *Coverage* - In Cities with a population of one million or more, at least  
8 one full-time school health practitioner shall be employed in each public elementary and  
9 secondary school.

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11 thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified  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

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

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

18 Approved,  
19