

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

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SENATE
S. No. 1348

RECEIVED BY: *[Signature]*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 13, Section 12 states:

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.”

Nosocomial infections are infections which are a result of treatment in a hospital or a healthcare service unit, but secondary to the patient's original condition. This type of infection is also known as a hospital-acquired infection (or more generically healthcare-associated infections). Health experts have warned that one out of 20 patients confined in a hospital or health care unit acquires infection during admission. Dr. Victor Rosenthal, of the World Health Organization’s Infection Control Guidelines External Reviewer, said that in most developing countries, 15 out of 100 patients confined in the intensive care unit are at risk of acquiring hospital-related infection. Hospital-acquired infections have been identified as responsible for a large number of deaths in the world. The most efficient way to reduce the spread of this type of infection is to improve hygiene practices in the hospital.

This bill seeks to address a very much preventable cause of death and hospital-related illnesses by keeping track of all possible sources of infection that will guide hospital administrators in addressing these problems.*

[Signature]
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
all

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



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SENATE
S. No. 1348

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

1 AN ACT
2 REQUIRING DISCLOSURE OF HOSPITAL INFECTIONS

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

3 SECTION 1. *Definition.* – As used in this Act, “hospital-acquired infection” shall mean
4 any localized or systemic patient condition that results from an adverse reaction to the presence
5 of an infectious agent or agents, or its toxin or toxins; and was not present or incubating at the
6 time of the patient’s admission to the hospital.

7 SECTION 2. *Hospital Record.* – All hospitals shall collect and maintain records of data
8 on hospital-acquired infection rates for specific surgical procedures and/or surveillance in critical
9 care and/or intensive care units performed by the hospital, as determined by the Secretary of
10 Health, including the following types of infections:

- 11 (A) Surgical Site Infections;
- 12 (B) Ventilator Associated Pneumonia;
- 13 (C) Central Line Related Bloodstream Infections;
- 14 (D) Urinary Tract Catheter Infections; and
- 15 (E) Such other types of infections as shall be determined by the Secretary of Health.

16 SECTION 3. *Reporting.* – The information obtained in accordance with section 2 of this
17 Act shall be reported as follows:

- 18 (A) Four times each year, on or before April 30, July 31, October 31, and January 31,
19 each hospital shall report all data collected on hospital-acquired infections in such hospital
20 during the immediately preceding quarter.

1 (B) Each year on or before March 1, the Department of Health shall submit a report to the
2 Congress, summarizing the data included in the hospital quarterly reports for the previous
3 calendar year. In addition, such report shall be available to the public upon request.

4 SECTION 4. *Advisory Committee.* – The Secretary of Health shall establish and appoint
5 members to an advisory committee. The members of the advisory committee shall include
6 representatives from the infection control department of both public and private hospitals,
7 physicians, epidemiologists with hospital-acquired infection expertise, academic researchers,
8 health insurers, health maintenance organizations, organized labor, consumer organizations, and
9 purchasers of insurance, such as employers. The majority of the members of the advisory
10 committee shall represent interests other than hospitals. The advisory committee shall work with
11 the Department of Health to establish standards, rules, and regulations necessary to implement
12 the provisions of this Act.

13 SECTION 5. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared
14 unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby
15 shall continue to be in full force and effect.

16 SECTION 6. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations, or
17 parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or
18 modified accordingly.

19 SECTION 7. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days
20 following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,