

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

'13 AUG 22 P5:16

SENATE
S. No. 1354

RECEIVED BY: *js*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 13, Section 12 provides:

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.*

ms.
Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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



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1 AN ACT
2 PROVIDING FOR INFLUENZA IMMUNIZATION, EDUCATION,
3 AND OUTREACH FOR CHILDREN

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

4 SECTION 1. *Influenza Prevention Program.* – The Secretary of Health shall administer a
5 program of influenza immunization for children ages six (6) months to six (6) years, and a
6 program of education and outreach to parents and guardians of children ages six (6) months to
7 six (6) years who attend a child caring center, day nursery, child day care center, nursery school,
8 kindergarten, or school age child care program. The education and outreach program shall
9 include educational materials on influenza and the benefits of influenza immunizations.

10 SECTION 2. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary for the initial implementation of
11 this Act shall be charged against the appropriations of the Department of Health under the
12 current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary for its full
13 implementation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act as a distinct and
14 separate item.

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16 parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or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

1 SECTION 4. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days
2 following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,