

'13 NOV 14 P4:18

SENATE  
S. No. 1925

RECEIVED BY *JW*

---

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

---

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 2, Section 15, provides that:

The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them.

The increase in the elderly population has implications to the country's response to the special needs of the aged; specifically, the adequacy of geriatric health facilities, trained personnel, and welfare programs for those who cannot afford private healthcare. Despite the traditional high regard for older persons in Filipino society, they are the most vulnerable to neglect as the family tries to face the pressures of survival.

Osteoporosis is one of the major concerns for our elderly population. It may be debilitating, but it can be prevented, or at least minimized, through proper nutrition and exercise before bone loss. And even those affected by severe bone loss can take preventive measures to minimize the risk of disabilities. To address these issues, early detection, prevention, and maintenance are the best weapons.

This bill seeks to address the need to be informed about osteoporosis, its effects, and its prevention.\*

*Miriam Defensor Santiago*  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
*over*

---

\* This bill was originally filed during the Thirteenth Congress

'13 NOV 14 P4:18

SENATE  
S. No. 1925

RECEIVED BY *[Signature]*

---

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

---

1 AN ACT  
2 ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL CAMPAIGN  
3 FOR OSTEOPOROSIS EDUCATION AND PREVENTION

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

4 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act may be cited as the "Osteoporosis Education and  
5 Prevention Act."

6 SECTION 2. *Definition of Terms.* -For purposes of this Act, the term:

7 (A) "DOH" shall refer to the Department of Health;

8 (B) "Secretary" shall refer to the Secretary of Health;

9 (C) "Congress" shall refer to both the Senate and the House of Representatives; and

10 (D) "Osteoporosis" shall refer to a disorder common to elderly women in which  
11 calcium and bone protein are depleted, causing bones to become less dense, more brittle, and  
12 fracture easily.

13 SECTION 3. *National Public Awareness Campaign.* - The DOH shall create a national  
14 campaign to increase awareness and knowledge with respect to osteoporosis. As part of such  
15 campaign, the Secretary shall provide public service announcements, in accordance with  
16 applicable law and regulations, by developing and placing in telecommunications media  
17 announcements intended to encourage at-risk populations to discuss their risks of osteoporosis  
18 with their physicians, and to call attention to early warning signs and risks factors based on the  
19 best available medical information.

1           SECTION 4. *Osteoporosis Prevention Demonstration Program.* -

2           (A)    The Secretary shall carry out an osteoporosis prevention demonstration program  
3 for purposes of -

4                   (1)    determining the best practices for providing information and outreach  
5                            services (including programs and information, such as fora, seminars, and  
6                            large-print, easy-to understand, multilingual literature) relating to  
7                            prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of osteoporosis; and

8                   (2)    measuring the effectiveness of such program over a three-year period, as  
9                            shown by an increase in the percentages of individuals who have  
10                           demonstrated expanded awareness and knowledge of osteoporosis  
11                           (including knowledge of personal risk factors).

12           (B)    In carrying out such program, the Secretary shall collaborate with the leading  
13 nongovernmental health organizations, academic institutions, local health officer, as well as  
14 other health entities, with a mission both to promote lifelong bone health nationwide and to  
15 provide outreach to local governments and communities, for the purpose of determining the best  
16 practices for providing bone-health information and outreach services to at-risk populations.

17           SECTION 5. *Osteoporosis Research and Reports.* - Not later than eighteen (18) months  
18 after the enactment of this Act, the DOH shall conduct a study on the prevalence of osteoporosis  
19 among the country's population. The study shall also contain an evaluation of the national public  
20 awareness campaigns conducted by the DOH, as well as recommendations on measures that  
21 could be undertaken to strengthen osteoporosis education and prevention programs. A report of  
22 this study shall be submitted to Congress not later than two (2) years after the date of the  
23 enactment of this Act.

24           SECTION 6. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part thereof is held invalid or  
25 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain  
26 valid and subsisting accordingly.

1           SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive  
2 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary to or inconsistent  
3 with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended

4           SECTION 8. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
5 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,